

Fruits Basket™

SHOJO
MANGA
JANUARY 1999

The #1 selling
shojo manga
in America!



16

Natsuki Takaya

Fruits BasketTM

Volume 16



Natsuki Takaya

Fruits Basket™

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STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, they change into their Zodiac animal!



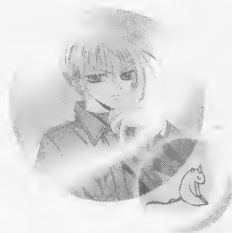


Tohru Honda

The ever-optimistic hero of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

Yuki Sohma, the Rat

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues. At school he's called "Prince Yuki."

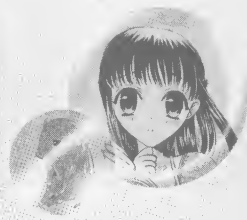


Kyo Sohma, the Cat

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.

Kagura Sohma, the Boar

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



Fruits Basket Characters

Mabudachi Trio

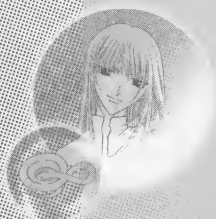


Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.

Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



Ayame Sohma, the Snake

Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.

Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



Tohru's Best Friends



Hiro Sohma, the Ram (or sheep)

This caustic tyke is skilled at throwing verbal barbs, but he has a soft spot for Kisa.

Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half-German. He's older than he looks. His mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse. His little sister, Momo, has been kept from him most of her life.



Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out. He was once in a relationship with Rin.

Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.



Fruits Basket Characters

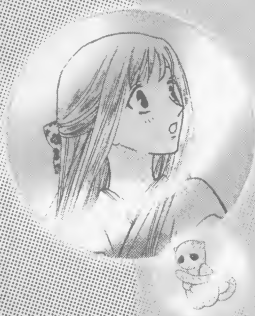
Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She was once in a relationship with Hatsuharu (Haru)...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

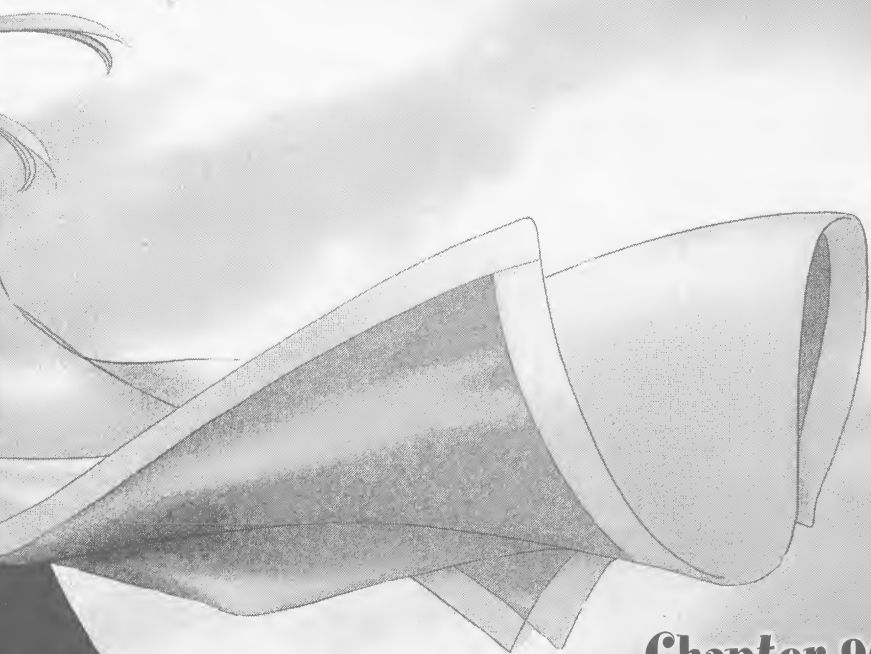
This shy kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he!! Crossdressing calms his nerves.



Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence.





Chapter 90

Fruits Basket TM








Smile from
the heart,
would ya?

Leader!
Lose the
distant
gaze!




THE CULTURAL
FESTIVAL
TORE THROUGH
PRETTY FAST.

BEFORE I KNEW
IT, THE YEAR
WAS ENDING.



SHE SEEMS EVEN
BUSIER THAN
USUAL WITH
THE HOUSEWORK
AND HER JOB.



I HEARD SHE
VISITS RIN IN
THE HOSPITAL
A LOT, TOO.

PLUS,
SHE'S
GOTTA
STUDY.




TOHRLI.



OH,
WOW!

YOU TAPED
THE WHOLE
THING!




DOES MY
VOICE
REALLY
SOUND LIKE
THAT?

YOU WERE
ADORABLE,
TOHRU-KUN.

TOHRU
WAS LIKE A
PRINCESS!

Oh! Er...
thank
you.

はさ
step



I WANNA
BURN IT INTO
MY MEMORY...



...AND
THEN
FORGET
IT ALL.



WHAT
THE
HELL IS
THIS?

PRINCE
KYO'S A
HIGHLIGHT,
TOO!

Heh.




ACK!



WELCOME
HOME,
KYO-KUN!

KYO-KUN,
YOU'RE
PREDICTABLY
DREARY.



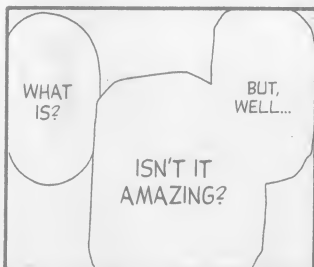
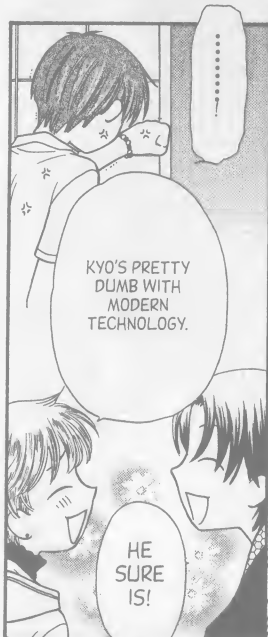
THAT
STUPID
PLAY IS
STAYING
OFF THE
TV!

Shut
up!

Kyo turned
it off, Kyo
turned
it off!

Meenie!

YEAH. HOW
FAR DID
YOU RUN?
IT'S EARLY,
Y'KNOW.





PEOPLE
CAN MOVE
AND TALK
ON A DVD.

IT'S SO
REAL.

MUCH MORE
REAL THAN
A PHOTO!

IT'S LIKE
THOSE
PICTURES ARE
REALLY ALIVE!

TO BE LEFT
BEHIND...



...OR TO LEAVE
BEHIND.

I WONDER WHAT
HURTS MORE?



DO WHAT
YOU WANT.

Oh!

KYO-
KUN!



PLEASE, UM,
REMEMBER
TO WIPE OFF
YOUR SWEAT.

YOU DON'T
WANT TO
CATCH A
COLD.



Huh?

KYO-
KUN.

WE WERE
WATCHING
THAT. BE A
DEAR AND
SCRAM?

I have
plans
after
this.

WHA?!

YEAH, YEAH.
STOP BEING
A JERK
AND GO.

Fruits Basket 16

Nice to meet you and hello! This is Takaya speaking. Fruits Basket is breaking into Volume 16 with Anego--"elder sister." That's Arisa!

Finally, I guess, the number of characters adorning the cover has broken through to 16. Which makes sense, since it's Volume 16.

There may be some people out there who are worried. "What will she do about characters after this?" they'll think. There may not be any. But don't worry--I've thought it through!

I may not worry about things that don't warrant worry, but I still think when I have to. (laughs)

...To be honest, I didn't have the confidence to assume that I would be allowed to draw this far. It looks like I'll be able to tell this story to its end, and for that I'm truly grateful. With that in mind, please enjoy Volume 16.





WHAT
WOULD
SHE...



IF SHE
KNEW THE
TRUTH.

IF SHE
KNEW I
MET HER
MOM.



...AND
SPILLS
ITSELF OUT.

WHY AM I
REMEMBERING
THIS NOW?

IT PUSHES
OPEN THE
LID OF MY
MEMORY...



"THAT'S
HOW YOU
WANT HIM
TO BE."

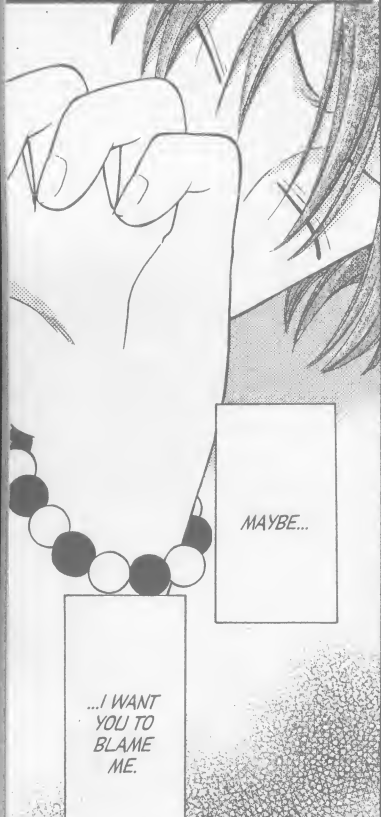




ARE YOU
BLAMING
ME FOR
THAT?

MAYBE IT'S
BECAUSE I'M
WITH HER
TOO MUCH.

OR BECAUSE
I'M CONCEITED
AS HELL.



MAYBE...

...I WANT
YOU TO
BLAME
ME.

"Y'KNOW
WHAT?"



I
PRETEND
I DON'T
KNOW.

I PRETEND
I HAVEN'T
NOTICED.

I PRETEND
I CAN'T
REMEMBER...

I CAN KINDA
REMEMBER.

WE TALKED
ABOUT A
LOT OF
THINGS.

"I WANTED
THEM TO
BLAME ME."

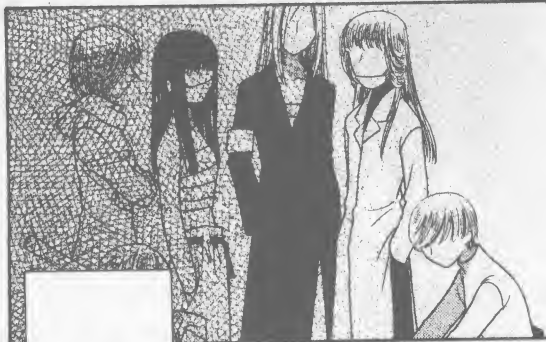


SHE STARTED
TALKING ABOUT
HERSELF A LONG
TIME AGO.

WHEN
WAS
THAT?

YEAH.

JUST A
LITTLE, AT
FIRST.



BEFORE
STARTING
MIDDLE
SCHOOL...

...SHE WAS
ALREADY
OUT OF
CONTROL.

SHE FELL
IN WITH
"BAD KIDS."

AND SPENT
HER DAYS
DOING "BAD
THINGS."

SHE STILL
BEAT PEOPLE
SENSELESS.

OR THEY
BEAT HER.

DIE, YOU
LITTLE
BITCH!

DIE!

SOME PEOPLE
CRIED OR
BEGGED.

LOOK AT YOU.
NOT SO TOUGH
NOW, ARE YA?

p-
PLEASE!

カス



DON'T MAKE
ME BREAK
YOUR NOSE!

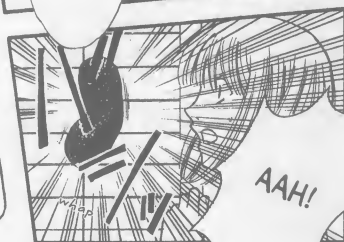
WHAT'RE
YOU LOOKIN'
AT, HAG?



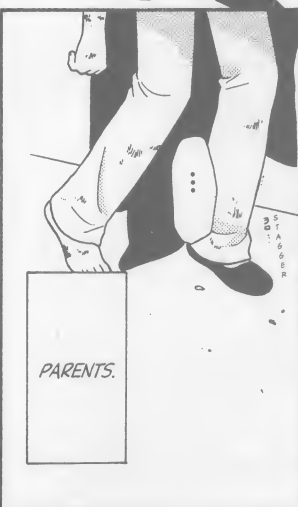
LOOK AT
THAT.

DEAR
GOD.

CALL THE
POL--



AAH!



PARENTS.



HOW ON
EARTH WAS
SHE RAISED?



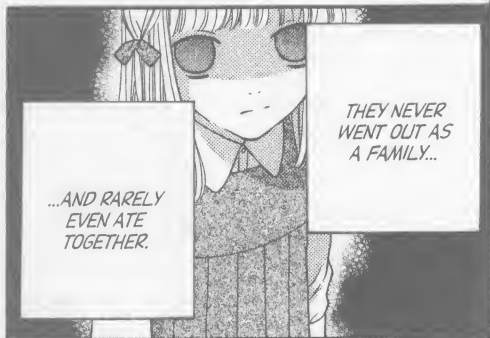
THAT'S
FRIGHT-
ENING.



HER DAD
NEVER
THOUGHT OF
THE FAMILY.



HER MOM
ONLY CARED
ABOUT HER
HUSBAND
AND HER
IMAGE.



...AND RARELY
EVEN ATE
TOGETHER.

THEY NEVER
WENT OUT AS
A FAMILY...



WELL, SHE
HAD THEM.



GET
OUT!

YOU'RE A
DISGRACE!

SHE
COULDN'T
REMEMBER
BEING HELD.

BUT SHE CAME
FROM A COLD
HOUSEHOLD,
SHE SAID WITH A
BITTER SMILE.

WHY IS THIS
HAPPENING?

slam

ハ
タ
ー

KYOKO.

KYOKO-
CHAN.

IN THIS WORLD,
THERE ARE PEOPLE
WHO ARE NEEDED
AND PEOPLE
WHO AREN'T.

YOU'RE THE
LATTER, YOU
UNGRATEFUL
CHILD.

NEVER
SET FOOT
IN THIS
HOUSE
AGAIN!

DEAR,
PLEASE!

WHY ARE
YOU LIKE
THIS?!

DO YOU KNOW
WHAT THE
NEIGHBORS
ARE SAYING?

WHY?

wh
am

WHY DID YOU
TURN OUT
LIKE THIS?

DO YOU
REALIZE HOW
ANGRY YOUR
FATHER WILL
BE AT ME?

...THAT IT WAS
LIKE HER BODY
WAS MADE OF
BROKEN GLASS.

SHE
COULDN'T
TRUST
ANYONE.

NOT HER
PARENTS,
NOT HER
FRIENDS...


SHE ONLY
HURT
THEM.

THEN YOU
SHOULDN'T
HAVE HAD
ME.

YEAH?

SHE
TOLD
ME...

JUST WHO
THE HELL
ASKED YOU TO
HAVE ME?!



THOSE NIGHTS
ON THE ROAD,
SHE FELT LIKE
LAUGHING
AND CRYING.

SHE
TOLD
ME...

SHE'D
STAY OUT
REALLY
LATE.


...THAT SHE
USED TO
BIKE AT
NIGHT.



BUT AT
THE SAME
TIME...

SHE FELT LIKE
SHE COULD GO
ANYWHERE.

...SHE
COULDN'T
MOVE.



IT'S RARE TO
HAVE YOU
IN SCHOOL
AT ALL.

AND NOW
THIS?
THIS...
STREET
FASHION?!

KATSU-
NUMA!

WHAT ON
EARTH
ARE YOU
WEARING?!



...IT
REALLY WAS
COINCIDENCE...

...THAT
SHE
MET
HIM
THERE
AT ALL.

crash

THAT'S
WHY...



YOU'RE
COMING
WITH ME!

I'M
CALLING
YOUR
PARENTS.

IN MIDDLE
SCHOOL...



...SHE
BARELY
EVER
SHOWED.



YOU'RE
HINDERING THE
STUDENTS
WHO ARE
SERIOUS
ABOUT
LEARNING!

SENSEI...

YOU
SHOULD BE
ASHAMED OF
YOURSELF!

AH!

YOU'RE A
MENACE,
YOU
REALIZE.



YOU
MISERABLE--
STOP THAT!

YOUR
SQUAWKING'S
NOT GONNA
SCARE ME!

SHUT UP,
YOU NOISY
BASTARD!

GOT
THAT?!

DID
SOMEONE
CALL HER
PARENTS
YET?!



HEY.

MY PARENTS
SURE AS
HELL AIN'T
COMIN'!

YOU THINK
YOU'RE SO
HOT, BUT
YOU CAN'T
DO JACK!

YOU CAN'T
RUN FROM
ME, OLD
MAN!

Fine!
JUST...STAY IN
HERE UNTIL
YOUR PARENTS
ARRIVE!





EVERY-
THING
PISSES
ME
OFF!

IT'S
EVERYTHING,
YOU PRICK!
GOD, YOU'RE
ANNOYING!

IT'S
EVERYTHING,
OKAY?!



AND
YOU!

EVERY-
ONE AND
EVERY-
THING!

I HATE
YOUR
GOD-
DAMN
GUTS!



THEM!

AND
THEM!

AND
THEM!

QUIT TRYING
TO ACT LIKE
YOU'RE ALL
FRIGGIN'
PERFECT!

BUT
YOU'RE
ALL
JUST
AS BAD!

YOU
JUST...

YOU ALL
TREAT
PEOPLE
LIKE
GARBAGE.

wham

I'D BE
BETTER
OFF WITH
YOU DEAD!

GET
OUT
OF MY
LIFE.

LEAVE
ME
ALONE.

I WISH
EVERYONE
WOULD
JUST...
GO.

YOU
FALL
APART!

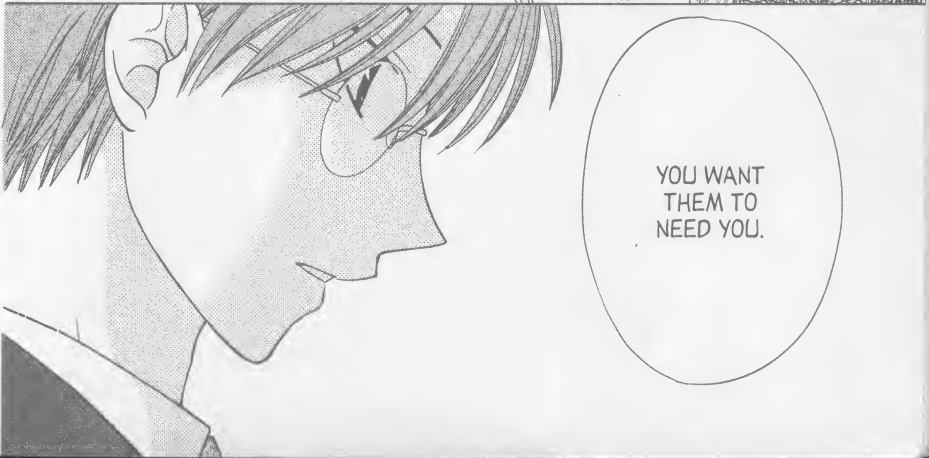
YOU DIS-
APPEAR!

GO TO
HELL!

DIE!

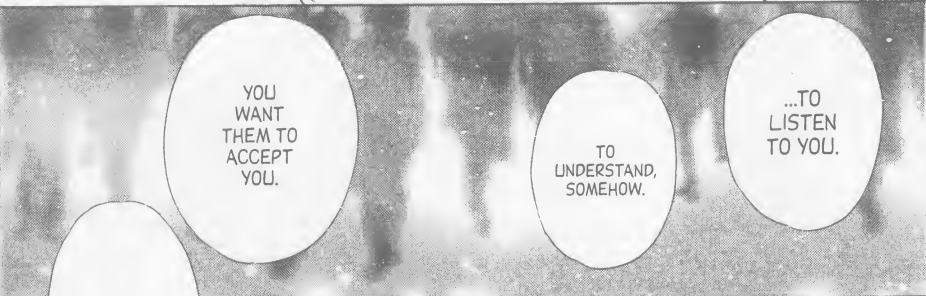
DIE!

wham





YOU
WANT
THEM...



YOU
WANT
THEM TO
ACCEPT
YOU.

TO
UNDERSTAND,
SOMEHOW.

...TO
LISTEN
TO YOU.



I
THINK...



...YOU
WANT
THEM
TO
LOVE
YOU.



YOU KNOW
SOMETHING?



I'M
LIKE
THAT,
TOO.



WH-
WHY?

...TURN
OUT...



...LIKE
THIS?

WHY
DID I...



...



WHY?

WHY...

...DID
I...?!

I'M
MISER-
ABLE.

WHAT
WAS HER
MISTAKE?

WHERE
DID
SHE GO
WRONG?

WHY
DID YOU
TURN
OUT LIKE
THIS?

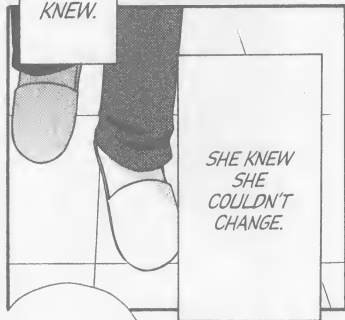
YOU'RE
ASKING
ME?

THAT'S
WHAT...
THAT'S
WHAT I
WANNA
KNOW.



I WANTED
TO BE
HAPPY.

BUT
SHE
KNEW.



SHE KNEW
SHE
COULDN'T
CHANGE.

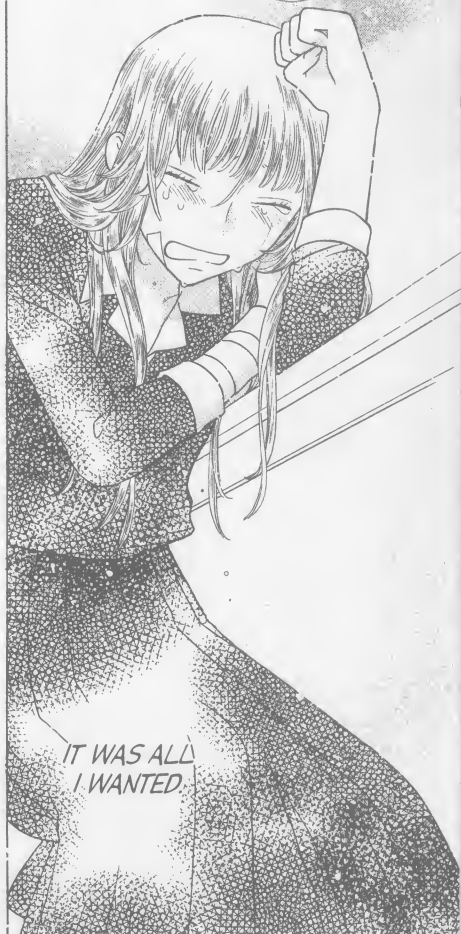


...YOU'RE
LONELY?

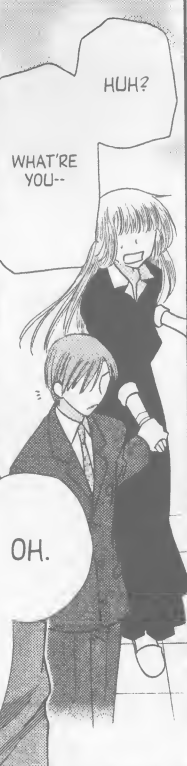
TO LOVE
PEOPLE...

...AND
BE
LOVED.

I FEEL
SO
ALONE!



IT WAS ALL
I WANTED.



HUH?

WHAT'RE YOU--

OH.

MY NAME
IS KATSUYA
HONDA, BY
THE WAY.

NICE
TO
MEET
YOU.



ALL
RIGHT.



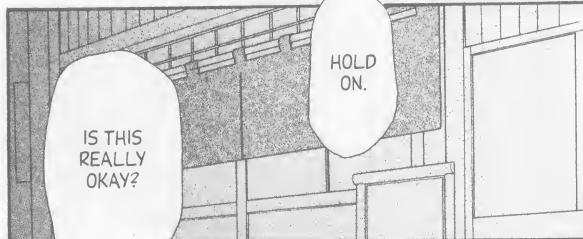
?!

LET'S
SNEAK
OUT OF
HERE.

TOGETHER.



SHE
THOUGHT
HE WAS
WEIRD.



IS THIS
REALLY
OKAY?

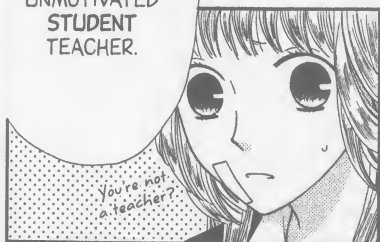
HOLD
ON.

AT FIRST,
ANYWAY.



DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I'M JUST AN UNMOTIVATED STUDENT TEACHER.



You're not a teacher?



IS WHAT OKAY?

YOU'RE A TEACHER, RIGHT? WON'T YOU GET IN TROUBLE?

HE'D RUN OFF WITH A STUDENT HE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW.

HE'D BROUGHT HER TO A RESTAURANT, CALM AS COULD BE.

HE WAS NUTS, OR AT LEAST ACTED IT.

UH...



SHE COULDN'T TELL...

...IF HE WAS AS GENTLE AS HE SEEMED.

HE COULD'VE BEEN FAKING THE MANNERS.





THAT
DAY...

...SHE ONLY
KNEW ONE
THING FOR
SURE.



SO
SORRY.

Hey!

WATCH
THE
HANDS,
GRABBY!

THE
RAMEN
TASTED
GOOD.

What's
wrong
with
you?!



...AND
SAID
THAT
WITH A
SMILE.

IT STUNG
AT HER
WOUNDS.

BUT THE
RAMEN THEY
ATE WAS
GOOD. SHE
NARROWED
HER EYES...



Chapter 91

DID YOU GET
IN TROUBLE
WITH THAT
OTHER
TEACHER?

...SHE
STARTED
TO
CHANGE.

AFTER
HER FIRST
MEETING
WITH
KATSUYA
HONDA...

NOT
REALLY.

I SAID THAT
YOU WEREN'T
FEELING WELL,
SO I THOUGHT I
SHOULD SEND
YOU HOME.

FOR TAKING
ME OUT OF
SCHOOL...

I HAVE MY
FATHER'S
INFLUENCE
ON MY SIDE.

INFLUENCE?



EVERYONE
TAKES CARE OF
ME BECAUSE I'M
MY FATHER'S
SON.

I SUPPOSE
THEY WANT
ME TO
FOLLOW
IN HIS
FOOTSTEPS.



SURE.

BUT IT'S
NOT ALL
BAD.

THAT
KINDA...
SUCKS.



HE'S RETIRED
NOW, BUT MY
FATHER WAS
A TEACHER.

HE TAUGHT
HERE FOR
YEARS.

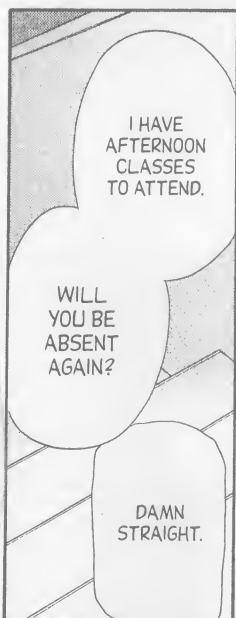
HE WAS GOOD
ENOUGH TO
GARNER A
BIT OF A
CELEBRITY
STATUS.



IT SAVES
ME FROM
CRITICISM
WHEN I TRY
TO PUSH
BOUNDARIES.

MY FATHER'S
INFLUENCE IS
WORTH USING.

IF YOU
KNOW
HOW,
THAT IS.



Argh!

MISS NO-
EYEBROWS.

I JUST
TOLD
YOU--
I HAVE
'EM NOW!

So
stop
calling
me
that!

HE HAD
STRONG
HABITS AND
WAS FAKE
POLITE.

AND
COLD,
IN SOME
WAYS.

BUT
THAT
DIDN'T
STOP
HER...

HE'S
GOTTA
BE!

HE'S
MESSING
WITH ME.

YOU'RE
PRETTIER
WITH
EYEBROWS...

...I HAVE
TO
ADMIT.

CRAP.



SHE NEVER
SHOWED UP IN
CLASS, BUT SHE
STILL WALKED
THROUGH
THE DOOR.

SHE
STARTED
GOING TO
SCHOOL
A LOT.



What?

SO YOU'RE
GOOD AT
TRICKING
PEOPLE.

THANK
YOU.



THAT'S NOT
A COMPLI-
MENT!

KATSUYA
HONDA
ALWAYS
VISITED HER
AT LUNCH.

SO HOW'S
YOUR STUDENT
TEACHER STUFF
GOING? DO THE
OTHER KIDS
LIKE YOU?

I'M DOING
WELL, THANK
YOU. MY
MANNERS ARE
MY SELLING
POINT.



...FROM
BEING
ATTRACTED
TO HIM.

Why is it so fun
drawing girly girls...?

Kagura 



With her father and
mother, Kagura's in
a family of three.

As of Volume 16, she's
a sophomore in junior
college...right?

Her parents love
her very much.

Kagura's house is more
independent than the
houses of the other
members of the Zodiac.

Essentially, she's an
older sister type who's
always ready to help.

She gets along with
everybody. Rin is the
only one she's awkward
with, but that's a
matter of Rin's feelings.

She gets along
especially well
with Ritchan.

← To be continued



HEY.

WHAT'RE
YOU
DOING
RIGHT
NOW?

YOU'RE
KIDDING!

GET
REAL,
HONDA-
SENSEI.

THESE
GLASSES
ARE JUST
FOR SHOW!

SENSEI...

I
WONDER
IF HE'S
ASLEEP.

DOES HE
CARE THAT I'M
DRAWING ON
EYEBROWS AND
ONLY SHOWING
UP AT LUNCH?

WHY DOES
HE COME
SEE ME?

I
WONDER...

...IF
HE'S GOT
A GIRL-
FRIEND.



THEY MAKE
ME LOOK
INTELLECTUAL
AND
SCHOLARLY.

AW,
COME
ON!

WHY DO
YOU WEAR
THEM IF
YOU DON'T
NEED
THEM?!

Ha
ha!
YOU'RE
REALLY
WEIRD,
SENSEI.



HEY.

MY
TRAINING ENDS
TOMORROW.

I'LL BE
LEAVING
THIS
SCHOOL.





I PLAYED ALONG
FOR A WHILE
BECAUSE MY
FATHER AND
EVERYONE ELSE
EXPECTED IT.

STILL...

I'M NOT
TOTALLY
UNINTERESTED
IN BEING A
TEACHER.



OKAY.

UH...



I'VE
DECIDED
AGAINST
IT.

uh.

SO...

ARE YOU
GONNA BE A
TEACHER?



WHO!!

MY
PERSONALITY
ITSELF IS
CONTRARY.

*My being a
teacher might
be dangerous.*

YOU JUST
ADMITTED
IT!

I CAN'T
CORRECT THE
CONTRARINESS.



IT'S JUST
THAT THE
JOB DOESN'T
SUIT ME.



.....
?




HIDING MY
TRUE NATURE
UNDER A
GUISE KEPT
ALL THOSE
SPECTATORS
QUIET.

...MY
FATHER IS
A STRICT
MAN.

BEFORE I
REALIZED IT, I'D
LEARNED TO
FORM "MYSELF"
TO SATISFY
HIM AND
EVERYONE ELSE
AROUND ME.

HE'S FUSSY
ABOUT
ETIQUETTE
AND A
NUMBER
OF OTHER
THINGS.



THERE WAS
A WALL
BETWEEN US.
I WOULDN'T
CALL IT
HATE.

AND
YET...



HE'S
LOST HIS
EDGE.

MY MOTHER
GREW SICK AND
DIED RECENTLY.
SINCE THEN,
HE FEELS
VERY SMALL.

I
THINK...



.....

DO YOU
HATE
HIM?



YOUR
DAD, I
MEAN.

WHA?

IT'S A
BORING
STORY,
ISN'T IT?

IT'S NOT
BORING.

IT'S NOT!
REALLY!

IF HE
WASN'T...

I THINK HE'S
'LONELY.' I
KNOW HE'S
'LONELY.'

HE'S
'LONELY',
TOO.

...HE
COULDN'T
HAVE SAID
ALL THAT.

I WANNA
KNOW...

...MORE
ABOUT
HIM.

HIS
CURRENT
"SELF" IS
LONELY.



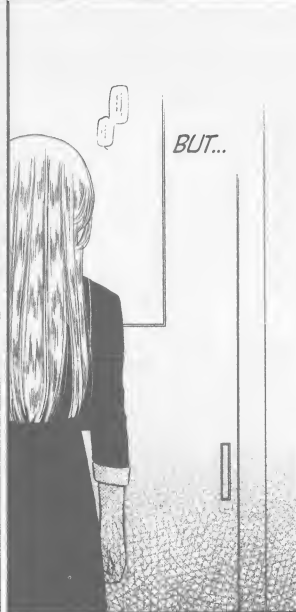
I CAN'T
SEE HIM
ANYMORE.



とっ grab



Ha
ha
ha!



BUT...



LOOK.



I, UH,
THOUGHT I
COULD AT
LEAST SEE
YOUR LAST
LECTURE.

I
JUST...



THANKS.
Y'KNOW.

YOU DID
GOOD...

...SENSEI.

I DIDN'T
WANNA
DRIVE THAT
HOME.

THERE'S NO
PLACE FOR
ME THERE.

I CAN'T JOIN
IN THIS
LATE IN
THE GAME.

I...

IT JUST
SUCKS,
Y'KNOW?

I GOT
MYSELF
IN THIS
MESS.

I KNOW
I'M NOT
BEING
FAIR.

I WAS
SCARED.

OF THE
CLASS-
ROOM.

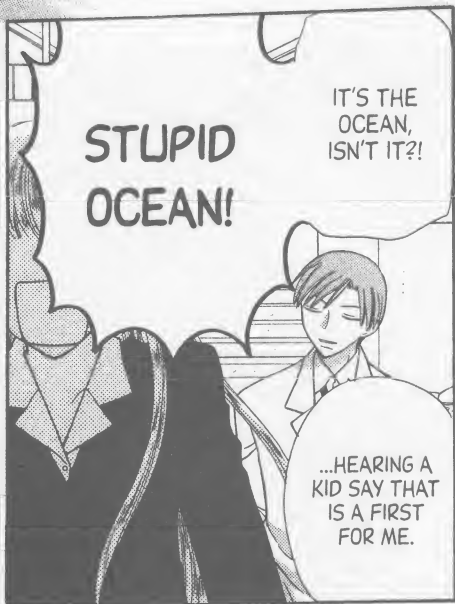
HUH?

I THOUGHT
I COULD
LEAST
COME TO
THE LAST--

COME
ON.

LET ME
TAKE YOU
SOMEWHERE
YOU WANT
TO GO.

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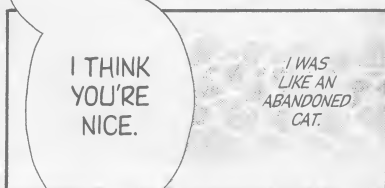
*YOU
DIDN'T
HAVE TO
CARE, BUT
YOU DID.*

SENSEI...



REALLY?

I'M NOT
SURE
YOU'RE
RIGHT
ABOUT
THAT.



I THINK
YOU'RE
NICE.

*I WAS
LIKE AN
ABANDONED
CAT.*



*I LOVE
YOU.*

HEY.

I'LL
EVEN GO
TO HIGH
SCHOOL.

I'LL
STUDY,
TOO.

YOU'LL
SEE.

I'M
GONNA
BE A
BETTER
PERSON.



BUT IF I'D
BEEN MORE
OPEN, LIKE
THE OTHER
GIRLS...

I
DUNNO.

MAYBE
IT'S
WEIRD
FOR MY
AGE.

IF I'D
LIVED
MORE LIKE
A GIRL IN
GENERAL...



I HATE HOW
IMMATURE
I AM.

I'LL GIVE IT
EVERYTHING
I'VE GOT.



I'M
ASHAMED
OF HOW
I'VE BEEN
LIVING.



THIS
GOODBYE
SEEMS
PRETTY
FINAL.

HM.



GROW
UP.

IT'S
GOODBYE,
DUH. WE
CAN'T SEE
EACH OTHER
ANYMORE.



THANK
YOU...



...MAYBE I
WOULD'VE
HAD THE
CONFIDENCE
TO TELL HIM
HOW I FEEL.

WITHOUT
BEING
ASHAMED.



BACK
THEN...


BESIDES.

IT'S
HARD TO
STUDY BY
YOURSELF.

THERE ARE
PLENTY
OF OTHER
PLACES WE
CAN SEE
EACH OTHER.

IF YOU
THINK
THAT TINY
SCHOOL IS
THE ENTIRE
WORLD...

...YOU'VE
ONLY PROVEN
THAT YOU'RE
A CHILD.



YOU WANNA
LEAVE THE
GANG THAT
BAD? SHOW
US HOW BAD,
PRINCESS.



YOU'RE
SUCH A
MORON.



YOU
CAN'T FIX
WHAT'S
BEEN SO
BADLY
BROKEN.

*BUT THEN
SHE WAS
PUNISHED,
SHE
MURMURED.*



*SHE WAS
HAPPY, BUT
CONFUSED.*

*SHE DIDN'T
KNOW THE REAL
REASON HE CAME
TO SEE HER.*



I LIKE
RESEARCH.
AND
THINKING
THINGS OUT.

HE EVENTUALLY
GOT A JOB AT A
PHARMACEUTICAL
COMPANY.



...THAT
SOUNDS
LIKE YOU'D
HATE ME.



HE LOOKED
OVER HER
SCHOOLWORK
EVERY
WEEKEND.

10 You're
always
picking on
people! It
sucks!
11

Your hair
looks lovely
when you
leave it
down.



HER
PARENTS
GAVE SOME
EXCUSE TO
AVOID HER.

COPS
AND
TEACHERS
CAME BY.



SHE
COULDN'T
TAKE
THE HIGH
SCHOOL
ENTRANCE
EXAMS.

DAMMIT.

HE DID SO
MUCH TO
HELP ME
STUDY.



...GOD
DAMMIT.

ONE
PHRASE
KEPT
ECHOING IN
HER HEAD.

I
CAN'T
FACE
HIM.



WHEN
SHE
CAME
TO...

...SHE WAS
IN THE
HOSPITAL.

"YOU GOT
WHAT YOU
DESERVED."

GET
OUT.

thud

WE'RE
DENYING YOU
ALTOGETHER.

NOW THAT
YOU'VE BEEN
DISCHARGED,
WE'RE DIS-
INHERITING
YOU.

...NO.

I DID
WHATEVER
THE HELL I
WANTED...

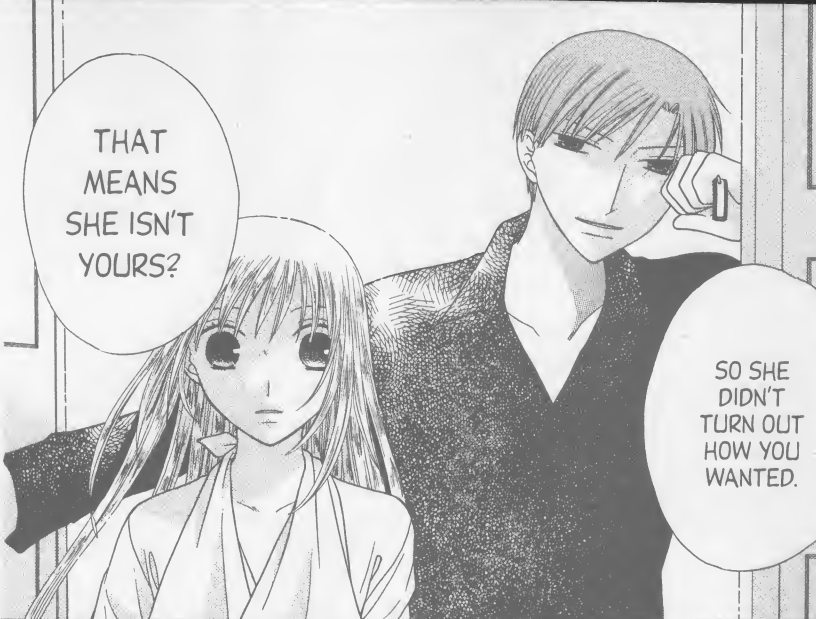
...AND NOW
I'M BEING
PUNISHED.

BUT DON'T
YOU DARE
BURDEN US
WITH ALL
OF THIS
AGAIN.

I GOT—
WHAT I
DESERVED.

LIVE
HOW YOU
WANT, DIE
HOW YOU
WANT.

IT'S
JUST
LIKE
THEY
SAY.



THAT
MEANS
SHE ISN'T
YOURS?

SO SHE
DIDN'T
TURN OUT
HOW YOU
WANTED.



I'M SORRY.
I DIDN'T
REALIZE
YOU WERE
SAINTS.



S--

?!



SEN...

WELL.

UNLESS YOU
BELIEVE YOU
CAN DROP
PARENTHOOD
THE MINUTE
IT BECOMES
INCONVENIENT.

IF SHE
MAKES A
MISTAKE,
YOU WON'T
ACKNOWLEDGE
HER
AS YOUR
CHILD?



BUT
YOU'RE HER
PARENTS,
SO I HAVE
TO.

I HOPE TO
MARRY THIS
IMPERFECT
GIRL.



W
H
A
T
?!

IT'S
OKAY,
SENSEI.

JUST
LEAVE
IT.

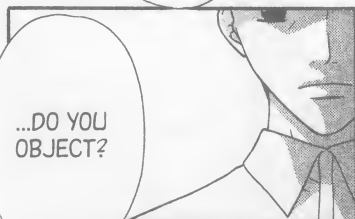
THIS IS A
PRIVATE
FAMILY
MATTER!

I DO HATE
TO GIVE
YOU MY
OPINION.



I'D LIKE
TO THINK
THAT
I AM.

AT
LEAST,
MORE
SO THAN
YOU.



...DO YOU
OBJECT?

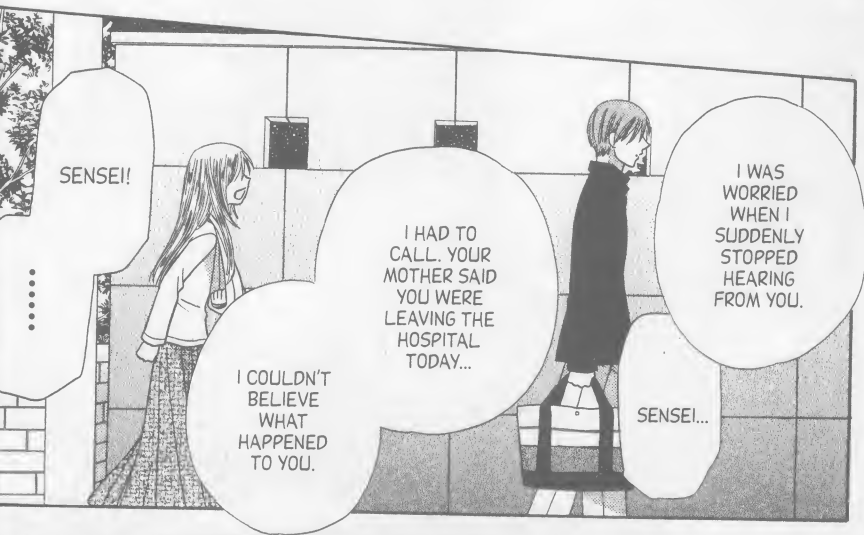


...HUH?

ARE
YOU
SANE,
SIR?

MARRY?

HER?





YOU
WEREN'T
SERIOUS,
WERE
YOU?!

WH-WHAT
YOU SAID
EARLIER.

KATSUYA!

...IT'S
OKAY.

OF
COURSE
I WAS.

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
GO THAT
FAR FOR
ME!

IT'S
OKAY!
REALLY!

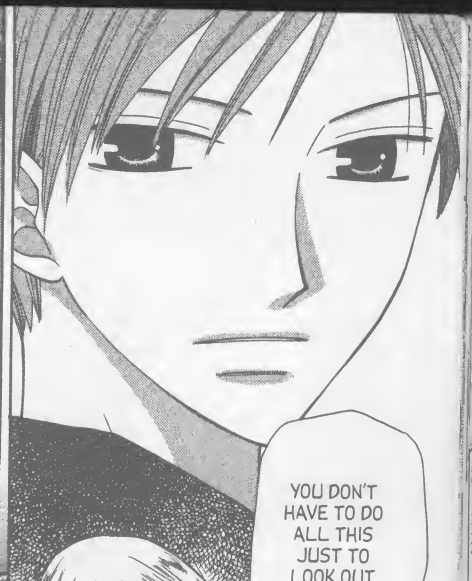
I'M SORRY
I HAD TO
PROPOSE
LIKE THAT.



I'M
HURT.

REALLY.

YOU THINK I
SAID THAT
OUT OF PITY?

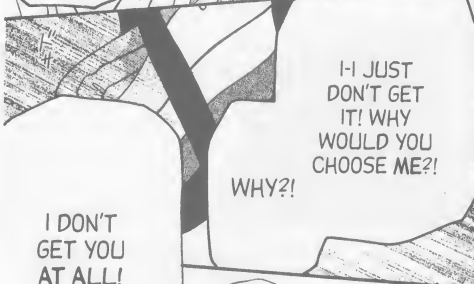


YOU DON'T
HAVE TO DO
ALL THIS
JUST TO
LOOK OUT
FOR ME!



BUT...!

DON'T
YOU
TRUST
ME?



I-I JUST
DON'T GET
IT! WHY
WOULD YOU
CHOOSE ME?!

WHY?!

I DON'T
GET YOU
AT ALL!

BECAUSE
YOU
CRIED.



YOU CAN
THROW
ME OUT.

YOU DID
ENOUGH.
I'M OKAY.


YOU DON'T
HAVE TO DO
ALL THIS
ANYMORE!



THAT'S
WHEN I
FELL IN
LOVE.



SO.



WHEN YOU
CRIED AND
CONFERSED TO
LONELINESS...

...YOU
SEEMED
VERY
HUMAN
TO ME.

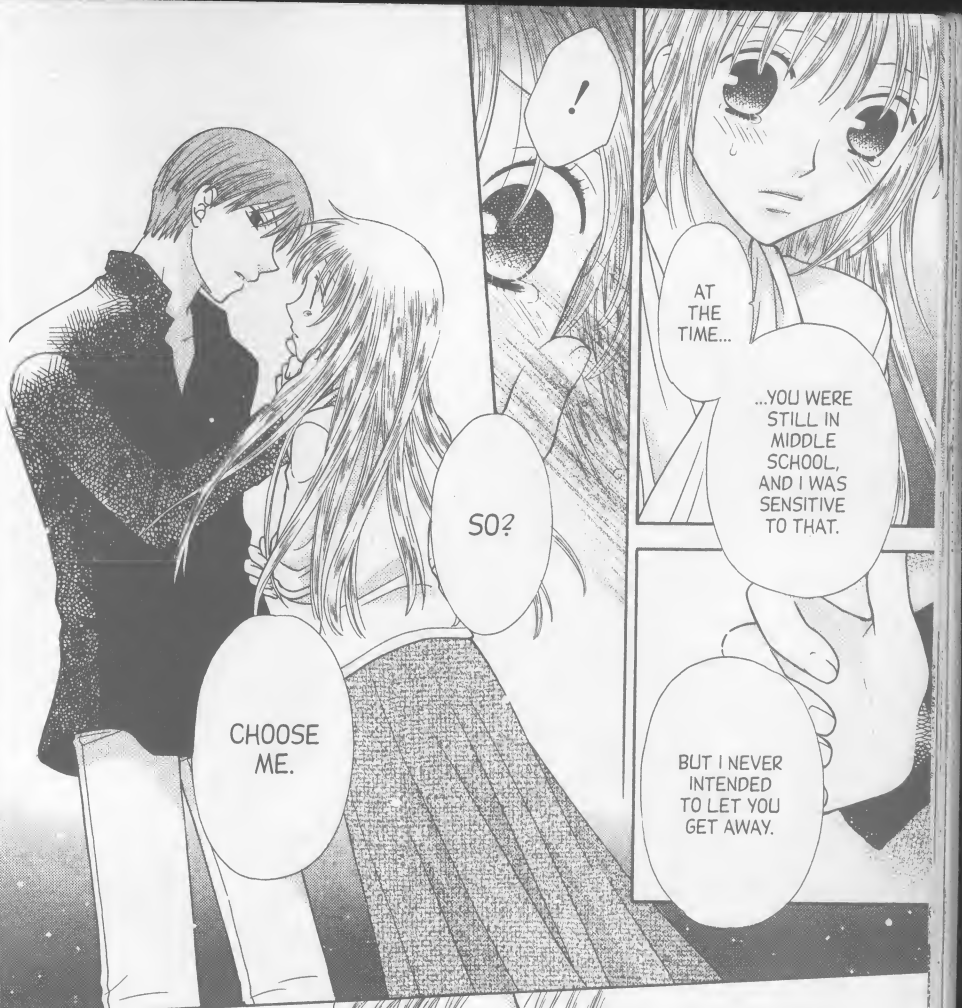


BUT I
COULDN'T
BE SO
PAINFULLY
HONEST
AND CRY.

I THOUGHT
EVERYONE
AROUND ME
WAS UTTER
TRASH.

FOR A TIME,
I ALSO
MISUNDER-
STOOD.

I
CAN'T
CRY.



CHOOSE
ME.

SO?

AT
THE
TIME...

...YOU WERE
STILL IN
MIDDLE
SCHOOL,
AND I WAS
SENSITIVE
TO THAT.

BUT I NEVER
INTENDED
TO LET YOU
GET AWAY.

...THAT I
DON'T LIKE
WASTING
WORDS.

JUST
REMEM-
BER...

I'LL SAY
IT AS
OFTEN AS
YOU LIKE.

IF YOU
STILL
CAN'T
BELIEVE
ME...

...I'LL SAY
WHATEVER
YOU NEED
TO HEAR.



CHOOSE
ME.

KYOKO.



THIS IS
YOUR
FAULT.

YOU
WERE
BORN
LATE.

.....

WHERE DO
YOU LEARN
WORDS
LIKE THAT?

KATSUYA...

DO YOU
HAVE A
LOLITA
COMPLEX?

...YOU
WOULD'VE
MADE A
LOUSY
TEACHER.

THANK
YOU.

Not a
compliment.

IT'S
TRUE.



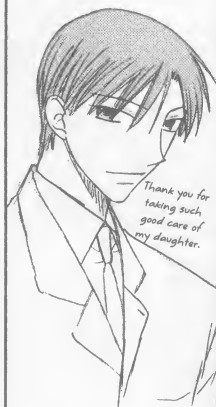


Chapter 92



Continued →

- Kagura still loves Kyon. It's probably not something you can change easily.
- She's fighting with that side of herself.
- Her dream is to work at a day-care. It's a dream she can't reach the way she is now.



Thank you for
taking such
good care of
my daughter.

I knew he was going to die,
and I can't change that, but
drawing him was really sad.

Katsuya-papa

- With his father, mother (died of an illness), and younger sister, Katsuya has a family of four. Had.
- As long as you love each other, age doesn't matter...! (There's an eight-year difference between him and Kyoko-san.)
- As a child he was contrary, which he's mentioned himself.

← To be continued



IT
WASN'T
JUST
THEM.

NOBODY
CELEBRATED
IT.



ALL THE
HONDAS WERE
AGAINST IT,
APPARENTLY.

EXCEPT
FOR ONE.



KATSUYA
HONDA'S
FATHER.

THERE'S NO
GREATER
HAPPINESS
THAN LIVING
WITH THE ONE
YOU LOVE.



IN AD-
DITION...

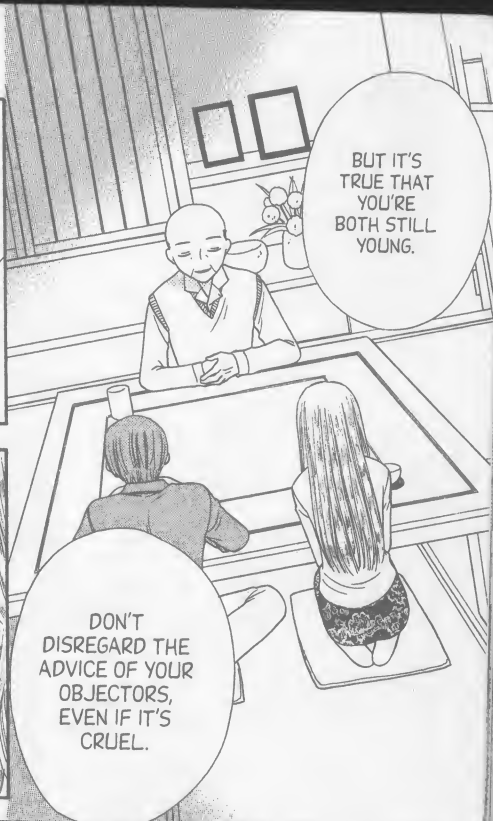
...SHOW
US YOU
LOVE EACH
OTHER
WITH YOUR
ACTIONS.

WE NEED TO
KNOW THAT
YOU'RE HAPPY
TOGETHER.

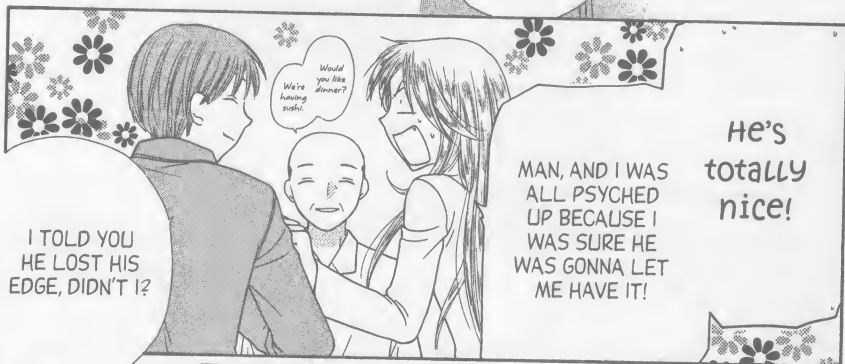
...



DON'T
DISREGARD THE
ADVICE OF YOUR
OBJECTORS,
EVEN IF IT'S
CRUEL.



BUT IT'S
TRUE THAT
YOU'RE
BOTH STILL
YOUNG.



I TOLD YOU
HE LOST HIS
EDGE, DIDN'T I?

Would
you like
dinner?
We're having
sushi.

MAN, AND I WAS
ALL PSYCHED
UP BECAUSE I
WAS SURE HE
WAS GONNA LET
ME HAVE IT!

He's
totally
nice!

THEY LIVED
NEAR THE
OCEAN.



ON HIS
DAYS
OFF...

...THE TWO
OF THEM
WENT OUT.



IT DIDN'T
MATTER
WHERE
THEY WENT.

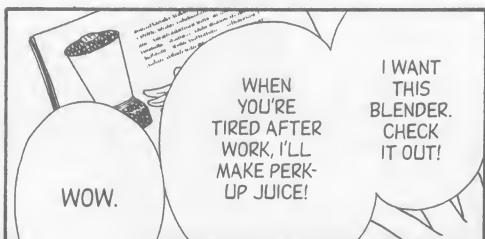


SINCE
WHEN
DO YOU
READ
THIS?

MAYBE
YOU DO
WANT
A RING.

NAH,
I'M
GOOD.

I'd just lose
the thing.



WHEN
YOU'RE
TIRED AFTER
WORK, I'LL
MAKE PERK-
UP JUICE!

I WANT
THIS
BLENDER.
CHECK
IT OUT!

WOW.



I'LL BET YOU
COULD MAKE
SOMETHING
DISGUSTING.

DON'T
PREJUDGE
ME, SMART
GUY.





YOU'RE PREGNANT?

THEN... YOU WENT TO THE HOSPITAL ALONE?

WHY?





I DON'T
THINK
I CAN
HANDLE
A BABY.

I...

s
q
u
e
e
z
e

I-I
DON'T...



WHAT'S
THE
MATTER?

IT'S A
WHOLE
OTHER
HUMAN
BEING!

A
BABY!

I'M HAPPY
TO HAVE
YOURS
AND ALL.

BUT...

DO I HAVE
THE RIGHT
TO?

GIVE
BIRTH TO
A HUMAN
BEING?

CAN
I...

...DO
THAT?






RAISE
ANOTHER
HUMAN
BEING!

GIVE
BIRTH
TO A
PERSON.

I DON'T
THINK
I CAN
DO IT.

I'M NOT
AN IDIOT. I
KNOW I'VE
LIVED A
ROTTEN
LIFE.

I
DON'T...



"JUST WHO
THE HELL
ASKED YOU
TO HAVE
ME?!"

"YEAH?"



WHAT IF
IT SAID...

IT
COULD
GET
PICKED
ON.

WHAT IF
THE BABY'S
MISERABLE
BECAUSE
OF ME?

NOT
FROM
ME?

...IT DIDN'T
WANNA BE
BORN?

OR
HURT.

IT COULD
CRY
BECAUSE
OF ME!



I'D WANNA
DIE IF MY
KID SAID
THAT.

I'D
WANNA
DIE.



I WONDER
HOW MOM
FELT...

...WHEN I SAID
THAT TO HER
FACE?



I SAID
SUCH A
TERRIBLE
THING.

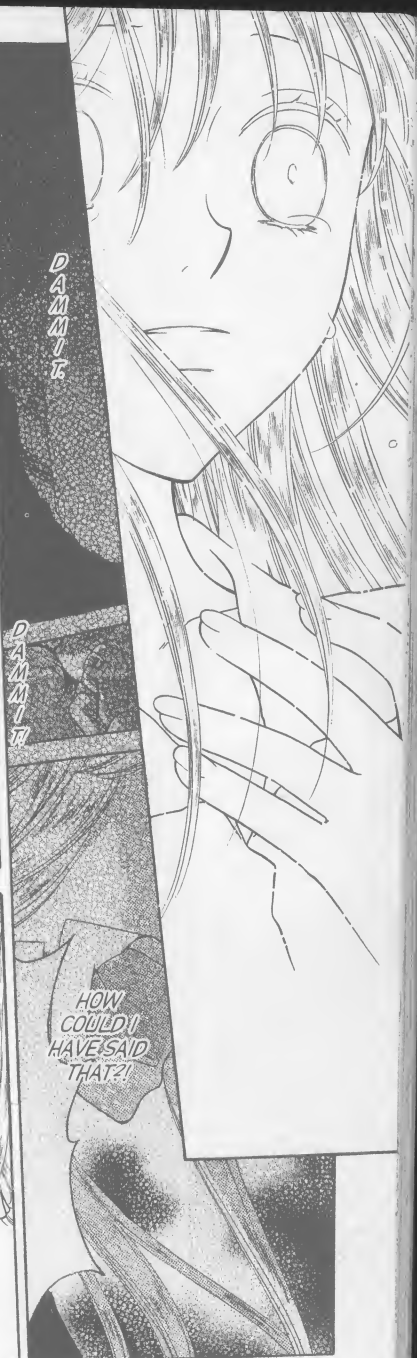
BUT I
DID IT.



IT WOULD
DESTROY
ME IF I
HEARD IT.

BUT I
HAD NO
PROBLEM
TELLING
HER.

KYOKO.



DAMN

DAMN

HOW
COULD I
HAVE SAID
THAT?!



I'M SURE
YOU'LL
BE FINE.

YOU'VE
ALREADY
PROVEN
THAT YOU
UNDERSTAND.

THIS
BABY
WILL BE
A HUMAN
BEING.



WE KNOW
WHAT WE
LIKE DONE
TO US.

AND WE
KNOW
WHAT
TEARS US
APART.



AS
FELLOW
HUMAN
BEINGS...

...WE JUST
HAVE TO
REMEMBER.



WE'LL
BE VERY
CLEAR.

IF IT DOES
SOMETHING
WRONG...

...WE'LL
EXPLAIN
WHY IT'S
WRONG.

WE'LL
TOUCH IT,
LISTEN
TO IT.

WE'LL
HOLD
THIS
CHILD
OFTEN.



TOGETHER.

LISTEN.

WE MAY
GIVE INTO OUR
FEELINGS
AND END UP
STRIKING IT.

LET'S
MAKE
SURE TO
APOLOGIZE.

THEN
WE'LL
HOLD IT
AGAIN.

...HOW
ABOUT
THAT?

WE'LL
RAISE
IT LIKE
THAT.

NOT...

...BY
MYSELF.



...YEAH.

T
O
G
E
T
H
E
R.

.....

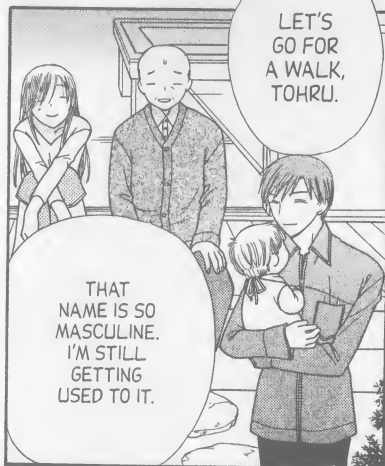
I WANT YOU
TO HAVE
THE BABY.

MISS NO-
EYEBROWS.

AND
THAT...

THE MOST
PRECIOUS
THING IN
THE WORLD.

...WAS
HOW SHE
WAS BORN.



LET'S
GO FOR
A WALK,
TOHRU.

THAT
NAME IS SO
MASCULINE.
I'M STILL
GETTING
USED TO IT.



HIDDEN
WHAT?

KATSUYA
SAYS IT
BRINGS
OUT HER
HIDDEN
FLAVOR.



THERE IT
IS AGAIN.

YOU KNOW
KATSUYA.

A LINE OF
REASONING
THAT I ALMOST--
BUT DON'T QUITE--
UNDERSTAND.

BUT I DO
GET WHAT
HE'S TRYING
TO SAY.



TOHRU.

HE WANTS
TOHRU TO
BE THAT
KINDA GIRL.

LIKE HOW
YOU ADD
SALT TO
SOMETHING
SWEET TO
MAKE IT
BETTER.

HUMAN
BEINGS ARE
STRANGE
CREATURES.

...THEY
PRODUCE
VARIOUS
OUTCOMES.

GOOD
THINGS,
SOMETIMES.

AND
OTHER
TIMES,
BAD.

AS PEOPLE
COME ACROSS
ONE ANOTHER...

HE'S GOOD
WITH THE
BATH. YOU
SHOULD SEE
IT, TOTO-SAN.

yup!

KATSUYA...

IS
KATSUYA
DOING
HIS FAIR
SHARE
OF THE
PARENTAL
DUTIES?

*Toto-san → Toto-sama → Otou-san

AND YET
HERE HE IS,
HONESTLY
IN LOVE.

WHEN
KATSUYA
SAID HE
WOULD
MARRY...

I WAS
DEEPLY
HAPPY.

THAT BOY
NEVER
SHOWED ANY
ATTACHMENT
OR PASSION.



KATSUYA
ISN'T
BITTER
TOWARDS
YOU.

.....
TOTO-
SAN.



I THINK
IT'S OBVIOUS
HE'S NOT
MAD.

HE
COMES
TO SEE
YOU.



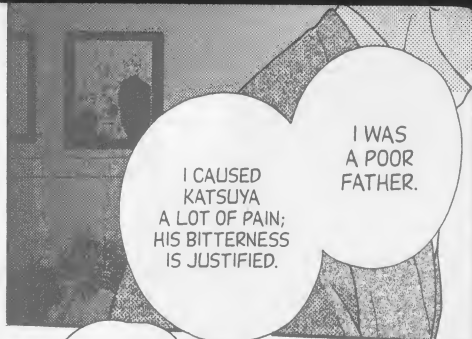
KYOKO.

YEAH?

IT'S A
LITTLE
COLD. DID
WE BRING
TOHRU'S
COAT?

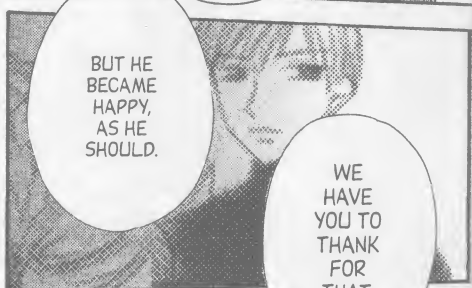
I'll
go
get
it.

YEAH--
IT'S IN
THE BAG.



I CAUSED
KATSUYA
A LOT OF PAIN;
HIS BITTERNESS
IS JUSTIFIED.

I WAS
A POOR
FATHER.



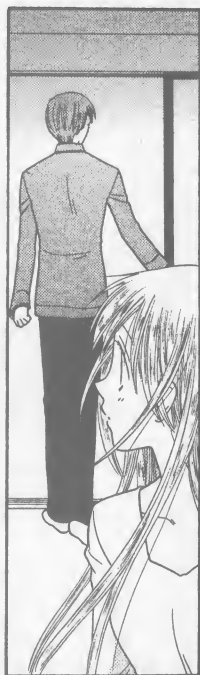
BUT HE
BECAME
HAPPY,
AS HE
SHOULD.

WE
HAVE
YOU TO
THANK
FOR
THAT.

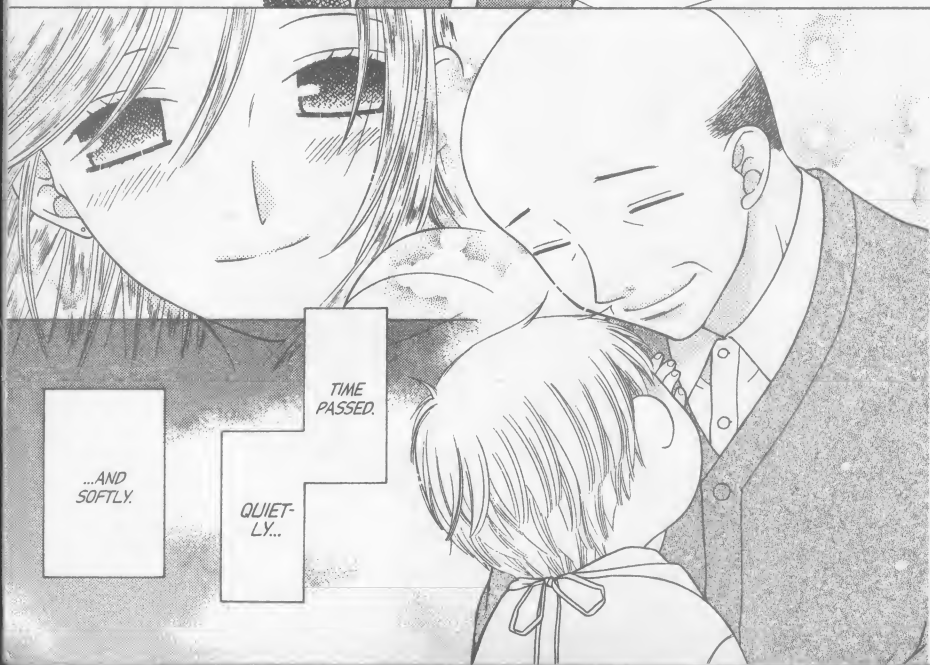


THANK
YOU...

KYOKO-
SAN.



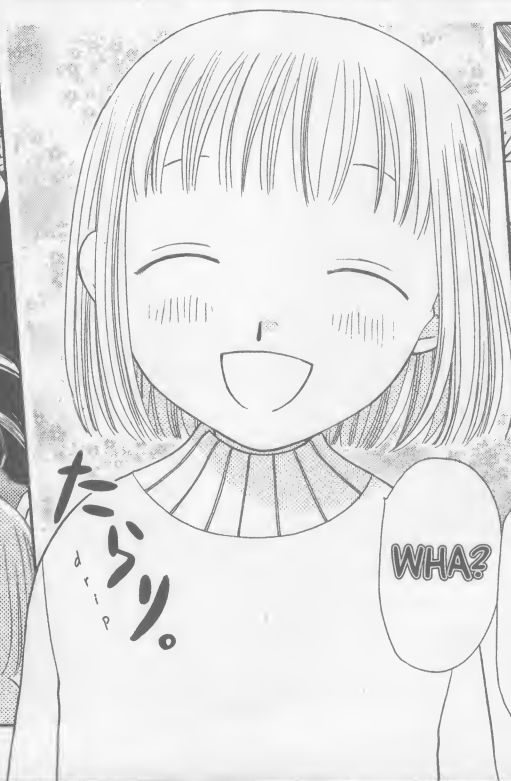
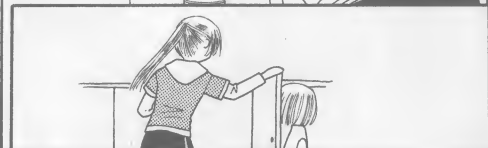
I'LL
GET IT
MYSELF,
THANK
YOU.



...AND
SOFTLY.

TIME
PASSED.

QUIET-
LY...



"I BONKED TOHRU IN THE FACE! I'M SO SORRY, TOHRU!"

DOES IT HURT? IT'S GOTTA HURT! MOMMY'S SORRY, BABY!



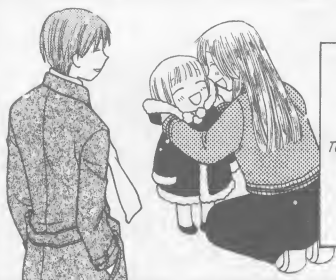
THE THREE
OF THEM
STILL
WENT OUT.

YOU MADE
THE WOMAN
FEARED AS
THE RED
BUTTERFLY
FAINT. YOU'RE
SOMETHING
ELSE, TOHRU.

B-blood.
My child is
bleeding.



...AND
SMILING.



TOGETHER...

...HIS
FACE
WAS SO
GENTLE.

SHE
LOVED
IT SO
MUCH...

...SHE
WANTED
TO CRY.



SHE
WATCHED
HIM.

WHEN
KATSUYA
HONDA
HELD
TOHRU...





DO YOU
STILL
HAVE
THAT
COLD?

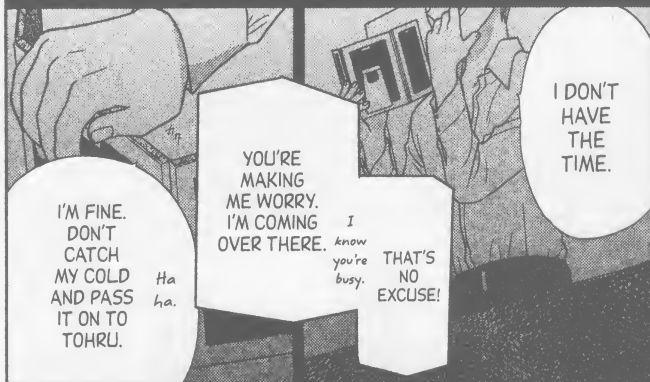
YES.

TOHRU

SEE A
DOCTOR
ALREADY!

SHE
WAS
HAPPY
ENOUGH
TO CRY.

AND THAT
FEELING
STAYED
WITH HER.



I DON'T
HAVE
THE
TIME.

YOU'RE
MAKING
ME WORRY.
I'M COMING
OVER THERE.

I
know
you're
busy.

THAT'S
NO
EXCUSE!

I'M FINE.
DON'T
CATCH
MY COLD
AND PASS
IT ON TO
TOHRU.

Ha
ha.

K
A
T
S
U
Y
A.



YEAH.
HOW IS
TOHRU,
BY THE
WAY?

I'LL BE
LEAVING
TOMORROW.

YEAH?



ALL
RIGHT.

SHE'S
ASLEEP
IN BED
RIGHT
NOW.

SHE'S
FINE.

YOUR
BUSINESS
TRIP'S
ALMOST
OVER,
RIGHT?

RRR

I'LL CALL
YOU AGAIN
WHEN I
GET BACK.

OKAY.
BUNDLE
UP AND
GET SOME
SLEEP.

AND GO
TO THE
DOCTOR!

I'VE BEEN
THINKING.

DO YOU
THINK IT'S
TIME...

...TO MAKE
HER A
SIBLING?

...MISS NO-
EYEBROWS.

I WILL.
GET SOME
SLEEP
YOURSELF.

GOOD
NIGHT...

YES.

...IS
THAT
WHAT
YOU
WANT?

Wow.
Hah.
hah!

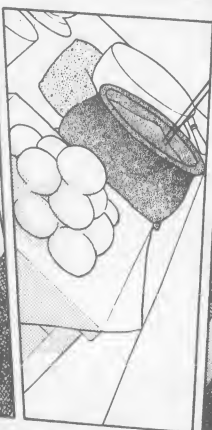
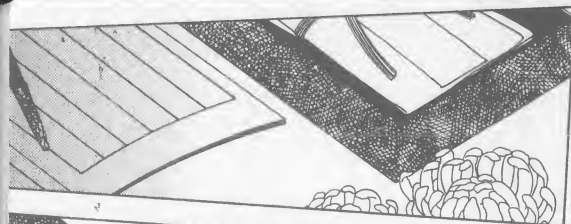
Oh!

THAT
MUST BE
PAPA.

HELLO?

HELLO?







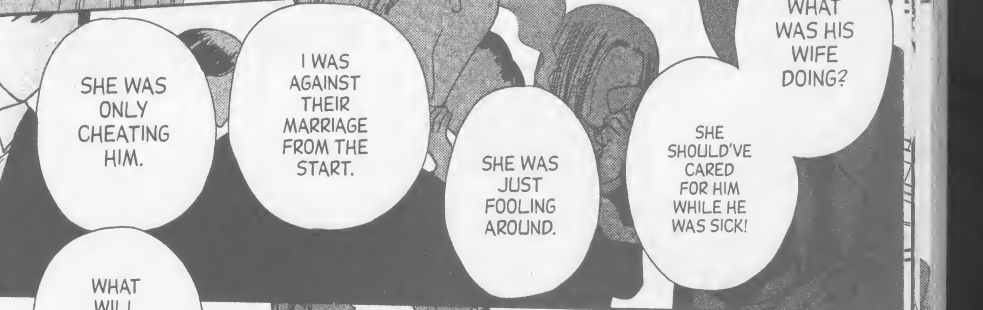
SUCH A
YOUNG
MAN...

HE SAID THE
COLD HAD
GOTTEN
WORSE.

IN THE
MORNING.

THEY
DIDN'T
REALIZE
IN TIME.

HE
HAD HIS
WHOLE LIFE
AHEAD
OF HIM.



SHE WAS
ONLY
CHEATING
HIM.

I WAS
AGAINST
THEIR
MARRIAGE
FROM THE
START.

WHAT
WAS HIS
WIFE
DOING?

SHE WAS
JUST
FOOLING
AROUND.

SHE
SHOULD'VE
CARED
FOR HIM
WHILE HE
WAS SICK!

WHAT
WILL
THEY
DO WITH
THEIR
CHILD?



POOR
KATSUYA-
KUN.



MORE.

HE WAS
BETTER
OFF
SINGLE.

MORE.

BEAT
THE
HELL
OUT OF
ME.

...KEEP
MAKING
IT MY
FAULT.

KEEP
BLAMING
ME.

I WANT
YOU TO
JUST...

MORE.

BLAME
ME
MORE.

KEEP ME
FROM
STANDING...

MORE.

...EVER
AGAIN.

THE
WHOLE
THING
WAS TOO
SHORT.

I'M SORRY TO
MAKE YOU
COME ALL
THIS WAY.

WE
THOUGHT
WE WOULD
ARRANGE
EVERYTHING
AND SEND
IT TO YOU...

...BUT THEN WE
THOUGHT THAT
HONDA-KUN WOULD
WANT SOMEONE
FROM HIS FAMILY
TO DO IT.

THIS IS...
THE ROOM
HE WAS
USING.

IT'S BEEN
LEFT THE
WAY IT
WAS WHEN
HE DIED.

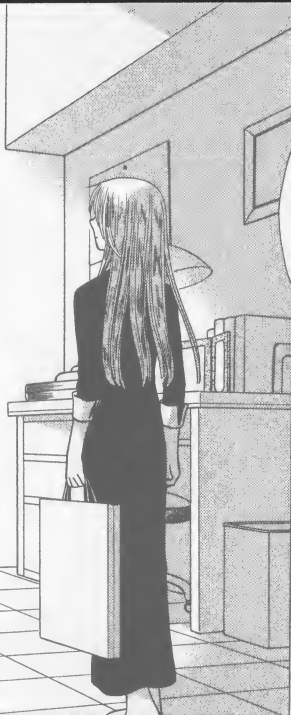
KATSUYA
HONDA WAS
CREMATED.

AFTER
THAT...

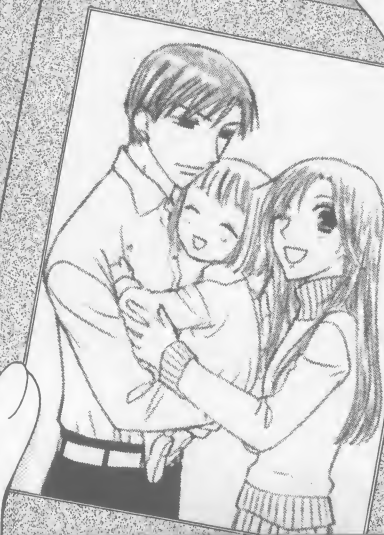
IT WAS
TOO
SHORT.

...HE WAS
SMOKE
AND
WHITE
ASH.

creak



I'LL BE
INSIDE,
SO PLEASE
CALL ME IF
YOU NEED
ANYTHING.





NN...



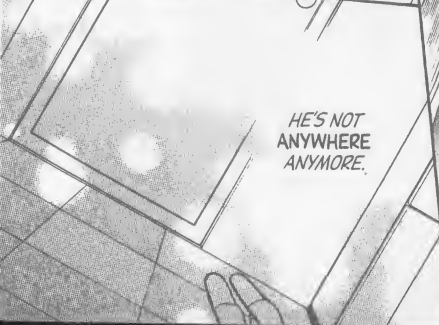
HE'S NOT
HERE.



HE'S NOT
HERE
ANYMORE.



.....
!



HE'S NOT
ANYWHERE
ANYMORE.



NN...

NNGH!

DON'T
LEAVE
ME!

PLEASE!

HES
NOT
HERE!

KATSUYA!

DON'T...

...LEAVE
ME...!

D--

DO...

open
アタリ



KATSUJA.

I'LL
NEVER
SEE
HIM...

HE'S NOT
HERE
ANYMORE.

...EVER
AGAIN.

HE'S NOT
ANYWHERE.

Chapter 93



SHE
SAID...

...SHE
DIDN'T
REMEMBER
MUCH.

FROM THE
PERIOD
RIGHT
AFTER HE
DIED.

IT
WAS A
BLANK.

THE ONLY
THING
SHE KNEW
WAS HER
CONSTANT
DESPAIR.

ON THE DAY
KATSUYA
DIED...

...WHY
DIDN'T
THE
WORLD
DIE
WITH
HIM?

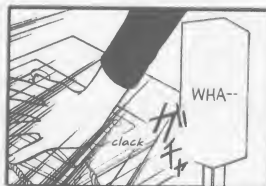




I'M
ONLY
SAYING
THIS
ONCE.

DON'T TRY
COMING BACK
HERE WITH
THAT CHILD.

WE
HAVE NO
INTENTION
OF TAKING
YOU BACK.



IT'S A
LIE.

THERE'S
NOBODY
NEEDED
IN THIS
WORLD.

N
O
B
O
D
Y.



THAT
WAS
A LIE.

WASN'T
IT?



DAD.

YOU
TOLD
ME A
LONG
TIME
AGO...

...THAT THIS
WORLD HAS
PEOPLE WHO
ARE NEEDED
AND PEOPLE
WHO AREN'T.

THE
WORLD
DOESN'T
NEED...

OR
KATSUYA.

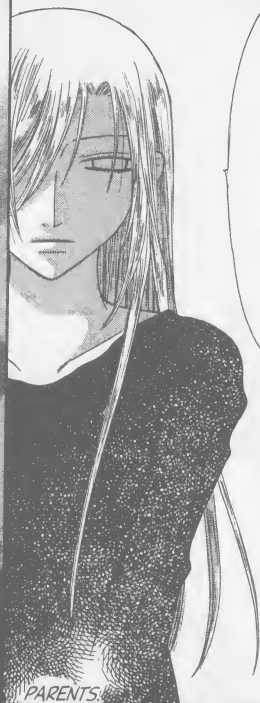
...ANY
OF US.



...DOESN'T
NEED
ANYONE.



WHAT A
MISERABLE
FATE.



NOT A
SINGLE
PERSON.

...KIDS OR
ADULTS.

TEACHERS,
GREAT
MEN AND
WOMEN...

ME.



I'M SURE
THAT'S WHY
PEOPLE...

THEY
NEED
THAT.

...SEARCH
FOR ONE
ANOTHER.



NEEDED
HIM.

I
LOVED
HIM.

BUT AFTER
I FINALLY
FOUND
HIM.



KATSUYA
WAS
MINE.

KATSUYA
WAS THAT
"SOMEONE."



THEY WANT
TO NEED AND
BE NEEDED.

THEY NEED
SOMEONE
WHO'LL
FIT THAT.



KATSUYA.

NO MATTER
WHERE I GO
BACK TO...

...THERE'S
NO ONE TO
WELCOME
ME.

WELCOME
HOME."



EXPERTS
SAY IT'S
GOOD FOR YOU,
AS YOU CAN
SEE FROM
THIS CHART.

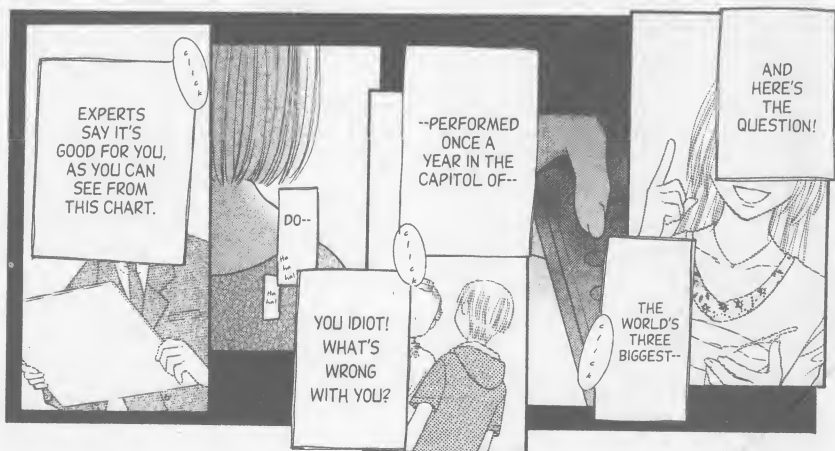
DO--

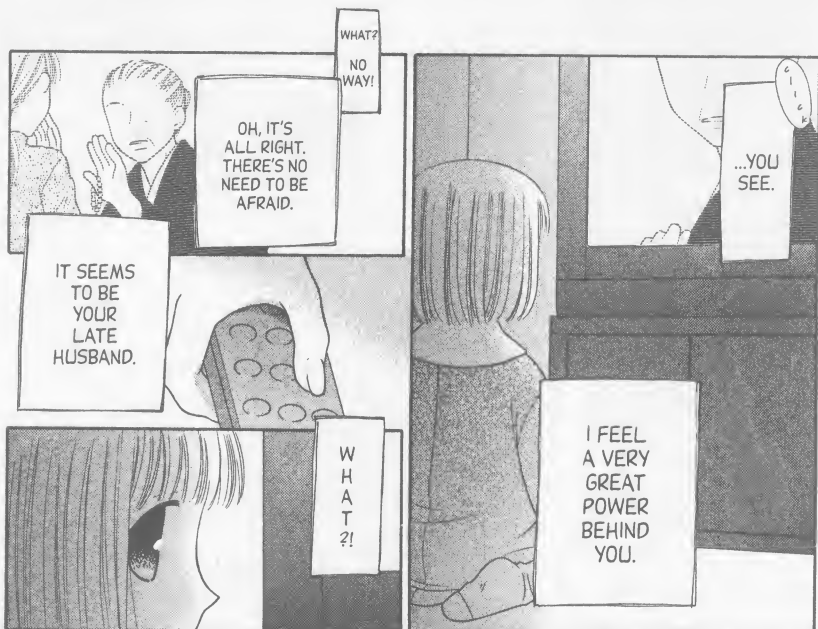
--PERFORMED
ONCE A
YEAR IN THE
CAPITOL OF--

YOU IDIOT!
WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH YOU?

THE
WORLD'S
THREE
BIGGEST--

AND
HERE'S
THE
QUESTION!



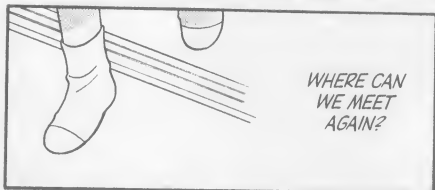




I WANNA
GO SEE
KATSUYA.



WHERE
ARE YOU?



WHERE CAN
WE MEET
AGAIN?



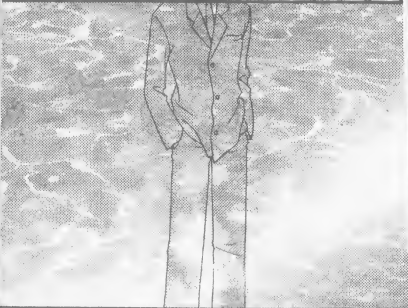
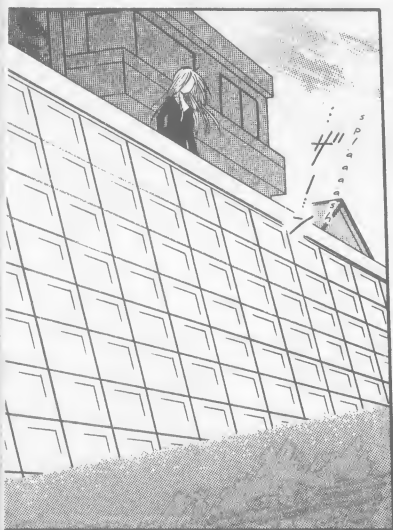
YOUR
HUSBAND'S
BEEN VERY
WORRIED
ABOUT YOU.

YOU
MUSTN'T
CRY
FOR HIM
FOREVER.



HE'S
WATCHING
OVER YOU,
SO YOU
HAVE TO BE
STRONG.

I-I WANNA
SEE HIM.



MAYBE...

...I
SHOULD
FOLLOW
YOU.





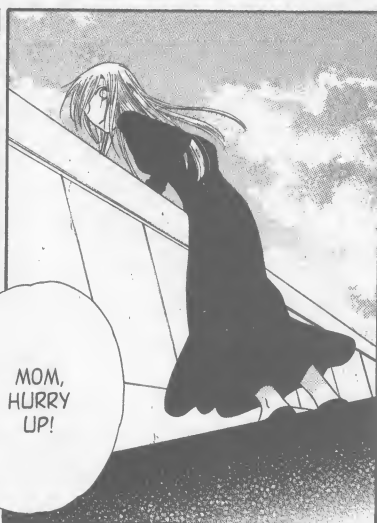
...MOM!

startle

"MISS NO-
EYEBROWS"



HOLD ON.
I'M NOT
SURE THE
TICKETS...



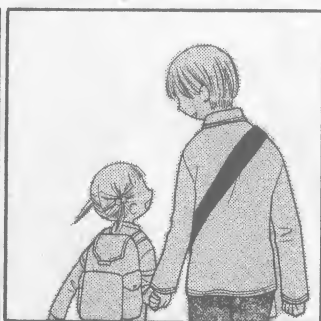
MOM,
HURRY
UP!



Ha
ha.
WE'LL
BE FINE,
SWEETIE.

HERE
THEY ARE.
THANK
GOODNESS.

WE'RE
GONNA
MISS THE
TRAIN,
MOM!



WHEN WAS
THE LAST
TIME ...

だ
dash

...I
SPOKE
WITH
HER?



WHAT
DID I
DO...

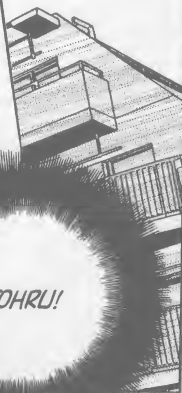
...ABOUT
MEALS?

I HAVEN'T
TALKED
TO HER, I
HAVEN'T
HEARD
HER VOICE
AT ALL.

TOHRU...



TOHRU.



TOHRU!

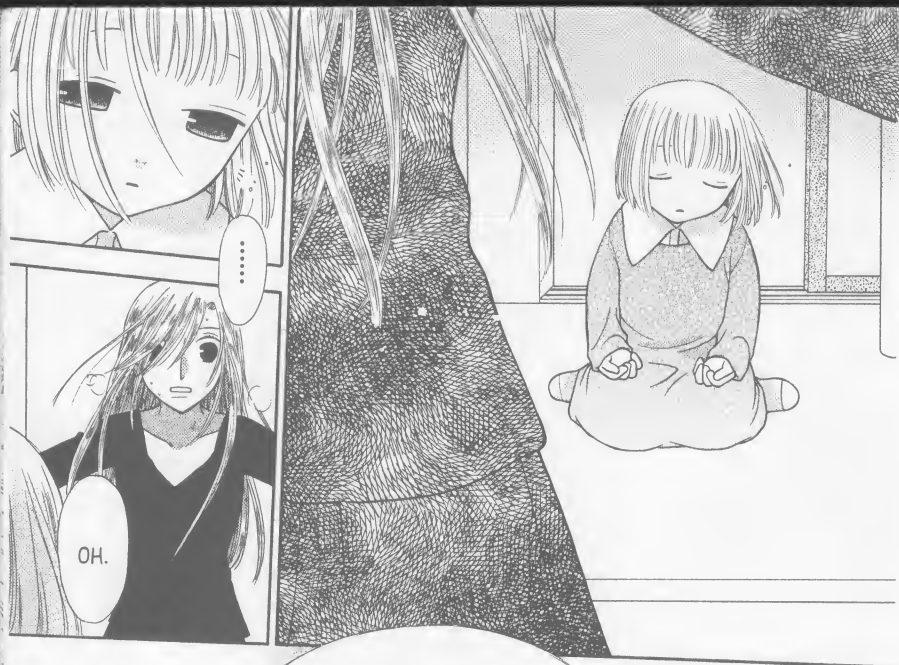


I THINK TOTO-
SAN CAME A
FEW TIMES,
BUT...

I CAN'T
REMEMBER!

IT'S ALL
A BLANK.





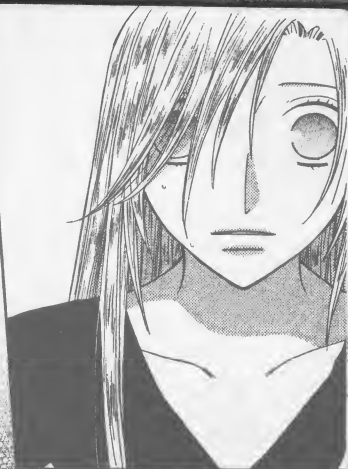
OH.

WELCOME
HOME.

HI.



.....!



I...

I'M
HO...

...I'M
SORRY!

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH ME?

I'M
HOME...!



I'M SO
SORRY!

I'M
SORRY!

I'M
HOME!

IT'S THE
ONLY WAY
I LEARN.

I'M SUCH
AN IDIOT.

THANK
YOU,
TOHRU.

I
ALWAYS...

...HAVE
TO
SCREW
UP ONCE

I'M
SORRY...

FOR
WAITING
FOR ME.

I'M SORRY
YOU HAD
TO WAIT!



MAYBE
THE WORLD
DOESN'T
NEED ME.

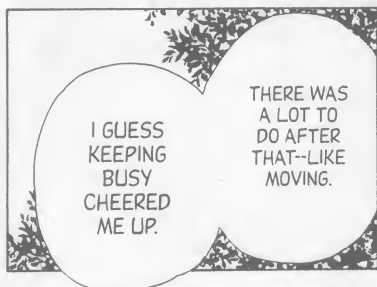
BUT THERE'S
STILL ONE
PERSON WHO'S
KIND ENOUGH
TO NEED ME.

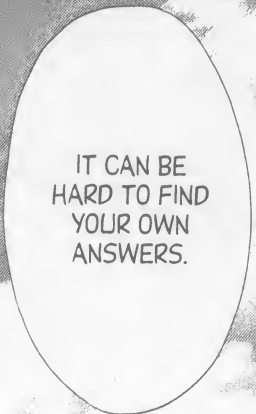
I ONLY
NEED THAT
TO LIVE.

THAT'S
ALL I
NEED.

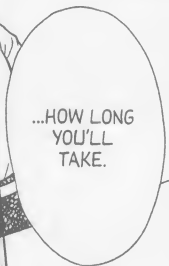
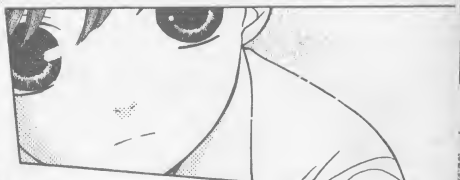
Y'KNOW?

MAYBE
IT'S
TRUE.






IT CAN BE
HARD TO FIND
YOUR OWN
ANSWERS.



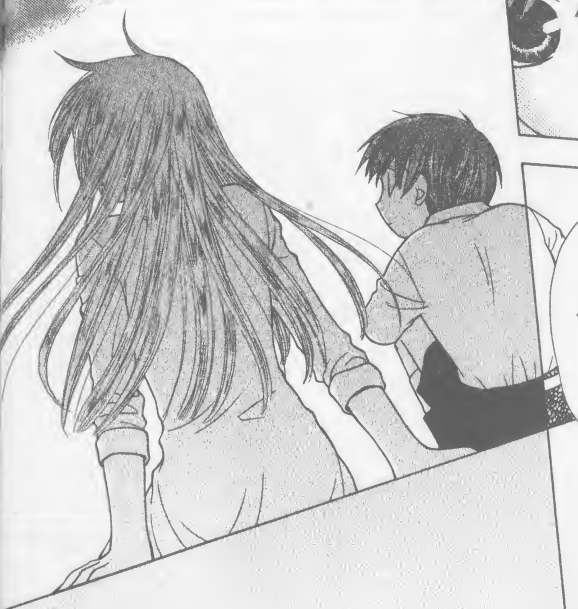
...HOW LONG
YOU'LL
TAKE.



IT
MAKES
ME
WONDER.



HOW LOST
YOU'LL
ALL GET...





*IT'S
TRUE,
ISN'T
IT?*

*FROM THE
BEGINNING,
I'D ALWAYS
FELT...*

*HER
WORDS...*

*EVEN
YOU.*

*ISN'T
THAT
WHY MY
MOM
DIED?*

*...SOUNDED
SO STUPID
TO ME.*

*YOU
SMILED
AT ME.*

*BUT
NOW...*

*I WAS STILL
A KID, I
GUESS--
THAT WAS
PART OF IT.*

*IN THE END,
I KNEW YOU
WANTED TO
TELL ME
IT WAS MY
FAULT.*

*...LIKE I WAS
BORN TO BE
HATED. THAT
I WAS ONLY
ALIVE TO HURT
PEOPLE.*

*...YOU
HATE
ME.*

*BUT
MORE
THAN
THAT.*



thu-thump

ba-dump



IT ISN'T
YOUR
FAULT,
KYO.



DO WHAT
YOUR
MOTHER
SAYS.

IF YOU
DON'T...



COME
INSIDE
WITH YOUR
MOTHER.

LET'S
LIVE IN
HERE
FOREVER.




YOU
DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING
WRONG.

BUT...

...YOU
MUSTN'T
GO OUT-
SIDE.

COME
ON.

THE
OUTSIDE IS
AN AWFUL
PLACE.



YOUR
MOM'S GONE
AHEAD.
SHE'S
WAITING
FOR YOU.

YOU
HAVE
TO GO
INSIDE.

OR DO YOU
WANT
MORE
TERROR?

DO
IT.

I'LL
NEVER
FORGIVE
YOU.





Ha ha!



WOW!
THANK YOU
SO MUCH!

It's
TOMRU!

Shaped like
an onigiri!

HOW
'BOUT
THIS ONE,
HUH?!



Yay!
Ah ha
ha!



ARE YOU
SICK? HOW
DO YOU
FEEL?!

WHAT'S
WRONG,
KYO? YOUR
FACE IS ALL
WHITE!

...NO.

Phew...

I
JUST
WOKE
UP.



Ah-
ha!

I KNOW.
YOU HAD
A SCARY
DREAM,
DIDN'T
YA?

YOU GET
THOSE WHEN
YOU SLEEP
AT WEIRD
TIMES!

SORTA...
I GUESS.



I WONDER IF
IT'LL COOK
PROPERLY IN
THIS SHAPE.

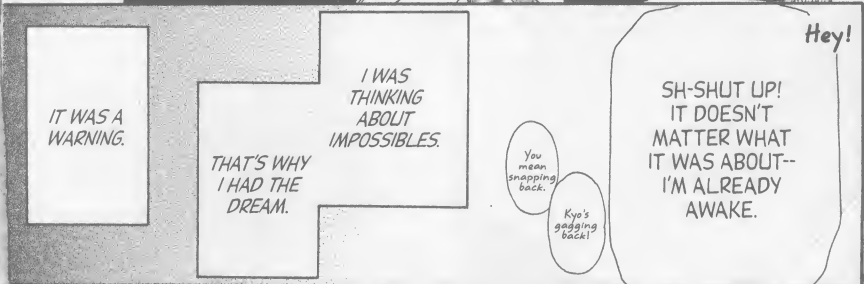
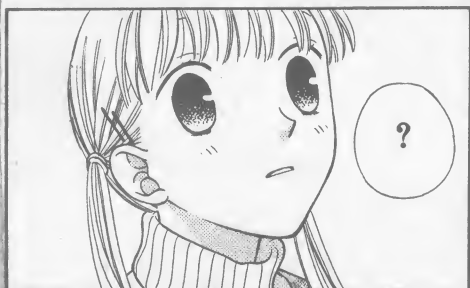
I'M SURE
IT'LL BE
FINE!

creak

LEAVE
IT TO--



KYO-
KUN?!





I'M
SUCH
AN
ASS.

EVEN I
HATE
MYSELF
FOR
THINKING
IT.

I KNOW
I HAVE
NO
RIGHT.



IT
WON'T
HAPPEN.

TOHRU.

SHE COULD
NEVER LIKE
ME BACK.



I HAVE
TO KNOW
MY
PLACE.

I CAN'T
INTERPRET
THINGS
WRONG.



YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
GIVE ME
NIGHT-
MARES.



KYO-KUN,
KYO-KUN!

I'LL
STAY
AWAY
FROM
HER.




THE
IDEA IS
JUST...
STUPID.

IT
WON'T...



Oh!



BUT IF
YOU'RE NOT
WELL, I
COULD FIX
SOMETHING
LIGHTER.



STOP
ACTING
LIKE I'M
SICK.

I'M
FINE.



KYO-
KUN'S IS
IN THE
SHAPE
OF A CAT!

TODAY
WE'RE
HAVING
HAMBURGER
FOR LUNCH!



I'LL
STOP.

ALL
RIGHT,
ALREADY!

Keep it down.

Then get
your butt
over here
and help,
Kyo!

FORGET
ABOUT
IT.

IT'S ALL
IN MY
HEAD,
ANYWAY.

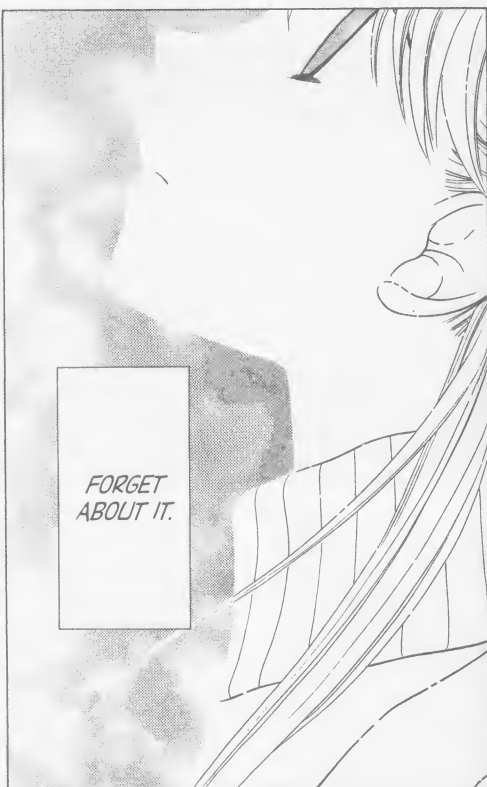
I'LL STOP
THINKING
ABOUT
STUFF
THAT'S
NEVER
GONNA
HAPPEN.



OF
COURSE!

THE
FIRE'S TOO
STRONG.
IT'LL
JUMP
OUT.

NAH!
It'll be
fine.



FORGET
ABOUT IT.



"Y'KNOW
WHAT?"

"EVERYONE
HAS TO LOSE
THEIR WAY
ONCE."

"IT'S THE
ONLY
WAY THEY
LEARN."



"EVERYONE"



Chapter 94



SCHOOL DE
MEMBER
ASSIGNM

"IF THERE'S
A COLOR
YOU WANT,
GO AHEAD
AND SHOUT
IT OUT!"

"WHAT
COLOR
DO YOU
LIKE?"

"NO, NO!
PINK IS
KIMI!
KIMI!"

THE
MOMENT
HE ASKED
ME THAT...

...I SUDDENLY
DIDN'T UNDER-
STAND WHAT I
WAS BEING ASKED,
WHO THE PERSON
IN FRONT OF ME WAS,
OR EVEN WHAT
DEFINED ME.

"KURAGI-
SAN."



THE
MOUNTAIN
OF WORK FOR
THIS YEAR
IS PRETTY
MUCH DONE.

6"
thud
12"

PHEW.

FINALLY.

I AM
"BLANK."



STOP
WRECKING
EVERY PARTY!

CHOP

DAH!

HEY! DID
YOU EVEN
TAKE CARE
OF YOUR
SHARE?!

'COURSE
I HAVE.



THANK
you for
your
HARD
WORK,
Yun-Yun.
♥

I'M
BEAT.

JUST DON'T
FORGET THAT
WE STILL HAVE
OUR ROUTINE
DUTIES.



BY ALL
MEANS.

RUNNING?!

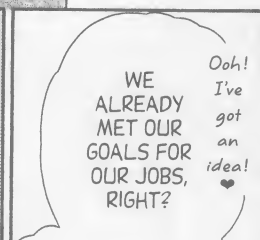
IF THE
WORK
WASN'T
DONE,
I'D BE
RUNNING
AWAY
NOW!

It's
all
good!



A REEEALLY
STYLISH
SHOP JUST
OPENED
NEAR THE
SCHOOL.

THE LUNCH
HERE IS CHEAP,
AND SCHOOL'S
OFF TOMORROW.



WE
ALREADY
MET OUR
GOALS FOR
OUR JOBS,
RIGHT?

Ooh!
I've
got
an
idea!
♥



And
you've
been
hoping
to take
Kimi there,
Haven't
you?

I can
tell.
♥

HAVE
WE.

HERE
COMES
MISS
DEMURE.



LET'S GO
CELEBRATE
TOMORROW!

CELEBRATE?

Continued →

He didn't really fight with his father, but there was a "rift" between them for a long time.

Even after his mother's death, he didn't have much contact with his father. When he took Kyoko-san to meet his father in Chapter 92, it was their first reunion in a long time.

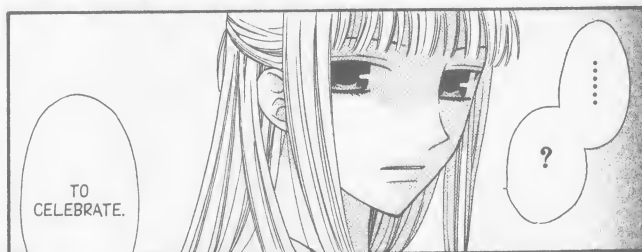
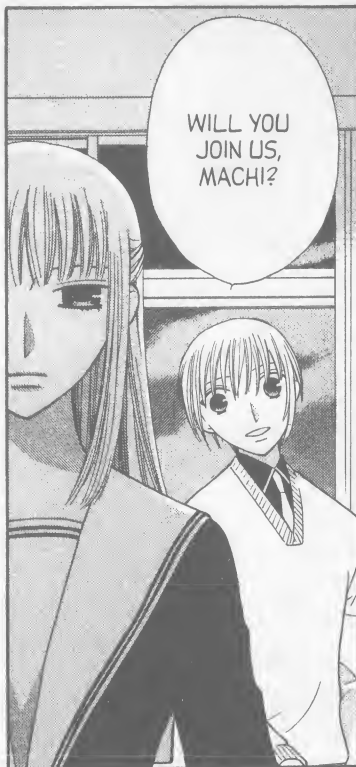
The reason he went to work for a pharmaceutical company is that, in a corner of his mind, he thought of his mother (who died from an illness).

His father's head is smooth and shiny (laugh), so he thought he might also go bald in the future.

He just mused on it (laugh), but he didn't try to do anything about it.

Back when Katsuya's face never really appeared, I received anxious letters asking, "Is he actually Kyo's father? Are Kyo and Tohru siblings?!" Um, huh?

Since drawing Katsuya, I think I've developed a weakness for Papa characters. It even hits me when I play video games.





Tee hee!

IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY. IF MACHI AND NAO-CHAN AND KAKERU CAN'T COME, DON'T PUSH YOURSELVES.

THAT WOULD BE A DATE.

We were planning a party.

Whoa.

HEY, NOW.

YUN-YUN WOULD AGREE.



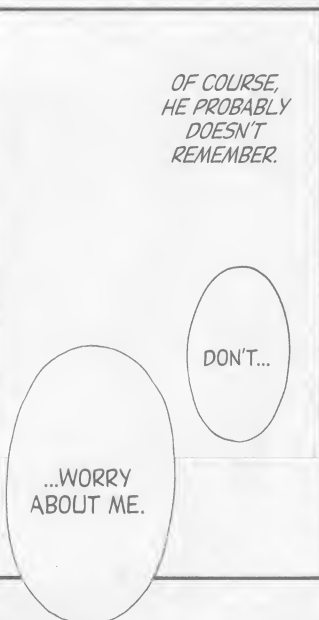
THEN YOU DON'T LIKE THE SHOP?

?

OH. DID YOU HAVE PLANS?

NO.

I'LL... PASS.



OF COURSE, HE PROBABLY DOESN'T REMEMBER.

DON'T...

...WORRY ABOUT ME.



IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.

HE ASKS ME AND I DON'T KNOW.



Hm.

MAYBE WE CAN FIND SOME OTHER PLACE YOU LIKE?



AGAIN.



I'M
SORRY,
THEN.

I
SUPPOSE.



BUT
STILL...



BESIDES.

I DON'T
THINK MY
PREFERENCES
ARE ANY OF
YOUR CONCERN,
PRESIDENT.



YOU
MAKE ME
WONDER.

WHAT DOES
THE WORLD
LOOK LIKE
THROUGH
YOUR EYES?

I AM TOO
NORMAL!
DON'T MAKE
ME SMACK
YOU!

YOUR
NATURALNESS IS
SCARY! NORMAL
PEOPLE CAN'T
SAY THAT
STUFF WITH A
STRAIGHT FACE!

You're
violent!
And in
denial!

Scary
boy!

I WROTE
DOWN THE
TIME AND
PLACE
WE'LL
MEET.

Okay!

HE'S A
NATURAL
IDIOT!

E
E
E
E
K!



Kimi's going
on a date
now!

YUP.

ALL
RIGHT.

DID YOU
GET THAT,
KAKERU?

Sigh.



Here.
Just in
case.

MACHI.

I'M OFF
TO THE
OL' JOB!

WHY
ARE YOU
SCREAMING?
AND DON'T
INTERRUPT
ME!

Shut
up!



OH, I
GET IT.
BECAUSE
YUN-
YUN'S A
PRINCESS.



BIG SCARY
CROWDS
MAKE THE
LITTLE
PRINCESS
FAINT.

HA!



Wait.

WILL THERE
BE A LOT
OF PEOPLE
WHERE
WE'RE
GOING?

NOT
ESPECIALLY, I
DON'T THINK.
WHY?



I'm
jealous!

THEN
I'LL SEND
YOU OUT
SHOPPING
AT NIGHT
SOME DAY.

...

YES. I WAS
GIVEN
A HIGH-
SOCIETY
UPBRINGING.



SEE
YOU
LATER,
MACHI.

Later.



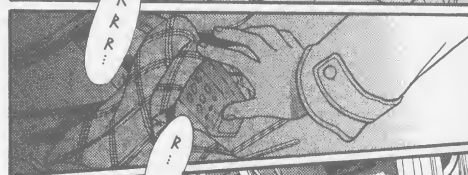
YEAH.

LET'S
GO, YUKI.



STOP
BEING
STUPID
AND
MOVE.
The
gate's
closing.

FINE.





...STUDENT COUNCIL...

AND HOW ARE THINGS?

トハッ
ハッ
ハッ

ANYTHING NEW?



MACHI?

I LET IT RING FOR A WHILE.

WERE YOU OUT PLAYING?



HAVE YOU MADE ANY FRIENDS?

HOW'S KAKERU-KUN DOING?

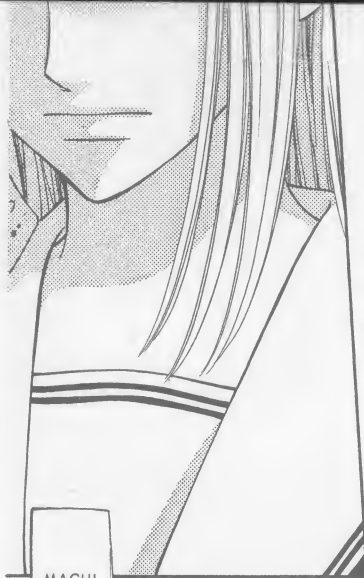


ARE YOU GETTING ALONG?



...NO.

NOTHING'S CHANGED.



MACHI.

MACHI?

NOT THE
SILENT
TREATMENT
AGAIN.



WHAT'S GOING
ON IN THAT
HEAD OF YOURS?
YOU NEVER
CHANGE,
DO YOU?

THIS IS WHY
EVERYONE FINDS
YOU DULL AND
UNAPPROACHABLE.



*"YOU
MAKE IT
SOUND
LIKE
IT'S MY
FAULT."*



"DON'T
LET
THAT BOY
SURPASS
YOU!"



"NEVER
MISS A
STEP."

"YOU
HAVE
TO BE
PERFECT."



"SHE'S
SUCH A
'DULL
CHILD'."



"DON'T
GET ANY
CLOSER!"



b o o p



I'LL
TALK
TO YOU
SOON.

c
l
i
c
k

I'M
COMING!

WELL,
I'LL LET
YOU
GO FOR
TODAY.

BE MORE
OPEN WITH
ME NEXT TIME,
WILL YOU?





THAT
PERSON
CHANGED.

LITTLE
BY
LITTLE.

"LOOK
OVER
THERE."

"YOU SEE
THAT
PERSON?"

BUT THAT
PERSON...

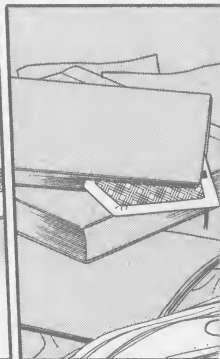
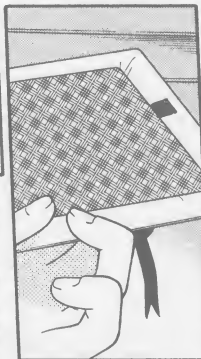


AND I WAS
LEFT "A
ME WITH
NOTHING."

A DULL
EXISTENCE.



NOTHING'S
CHANGED
SINCE THEN.



Woow!

"HE'S
TOTALLY
PRETTY!
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
HE'S A GUY!"

"THAT'S
YUKI
SOHMA."

"THE ONE
IN THE
MIDDLE--
SEE?"

"I CAN SEE
WHY THEY
CALL HIM
PRINCE
CHARMING."

"UNREAL!"

"PRINCE
CHARMING'S
REAL
POPULAR
WITH THE
ALL GIRLS."

"YEAH,
RIGHT. HE'D
NEVER TALK
TO YOU."

"DO YOU
THINK
HE'D GO
OUT WITH
ME?"

"DUH! HE'S
TALKING TO
A BUNCH
RIGHT
NOW."

"A GUY LIKE
THAT'S
NEVER
GONNA BE
LONELY."

AND YET...

HE DOES
SEEM
LONELY.

THAT'S WHAT
IT LOOKED
LIKE, AT
LEAST.

..."LONELINESS"
ATE AWAY
AT HIM.

EVERY TIME
HE WAS
TREATED LIKE
A PRINCE...

"THIS IS WHY
EVERYONE FINDS
YOU DULL AND
UNAPPROACHABLE."

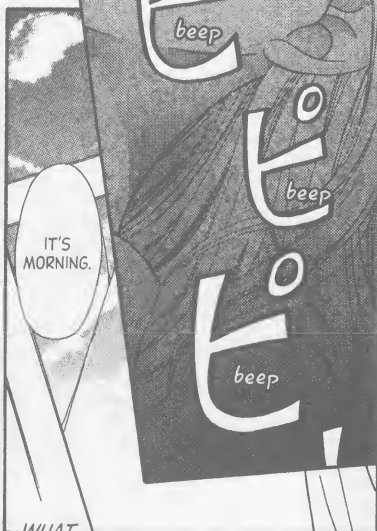
HE'S
CHANGING.

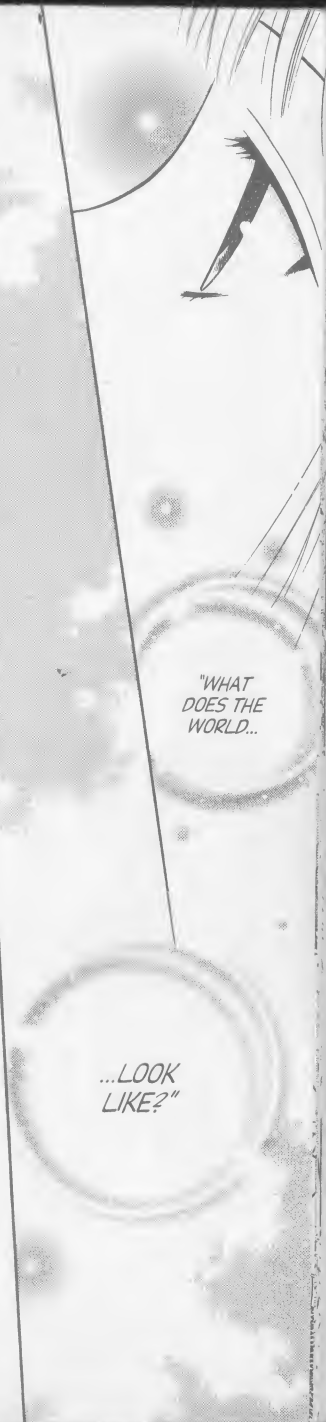
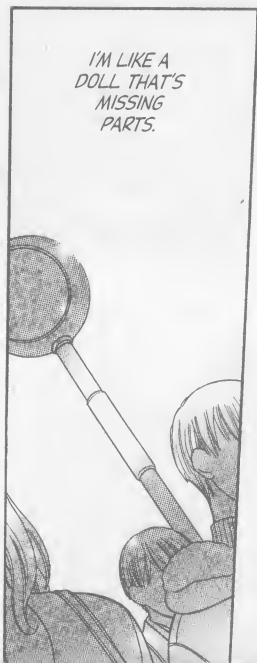
I'M
SURE
OF IT.

"YOU
NEVER
CHANGE,
DO YOU?"

BUT HIS
SMILES
ARE NICER
NOW.

LIKE HE
PULLS
THEM FROM
HIS HEART.







A DEFECT.

A BROKEN
DOLL THAT
CAN'T
BECOME
FULLY
HUMAN.

OR AM I
INVISIBLE?

ARE THEY
INVISIBLE?

...AND
I PASS
THEM.

PEOPLE
ALWAYS
PASS ME...

AREN'T I THE ONE
NOT PARTICIPATING
IN THIS WORLD?

AM
I...



AM I A
NECESSARY
BEING?




AM I...

...NEEDED?



...NEEDED
IN THIS
WORLD?

MACHI!

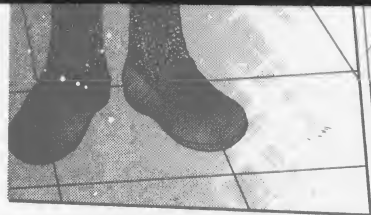


**BUT
HERE
YOU ARE,
MACHI.**

I'M
GLAD!

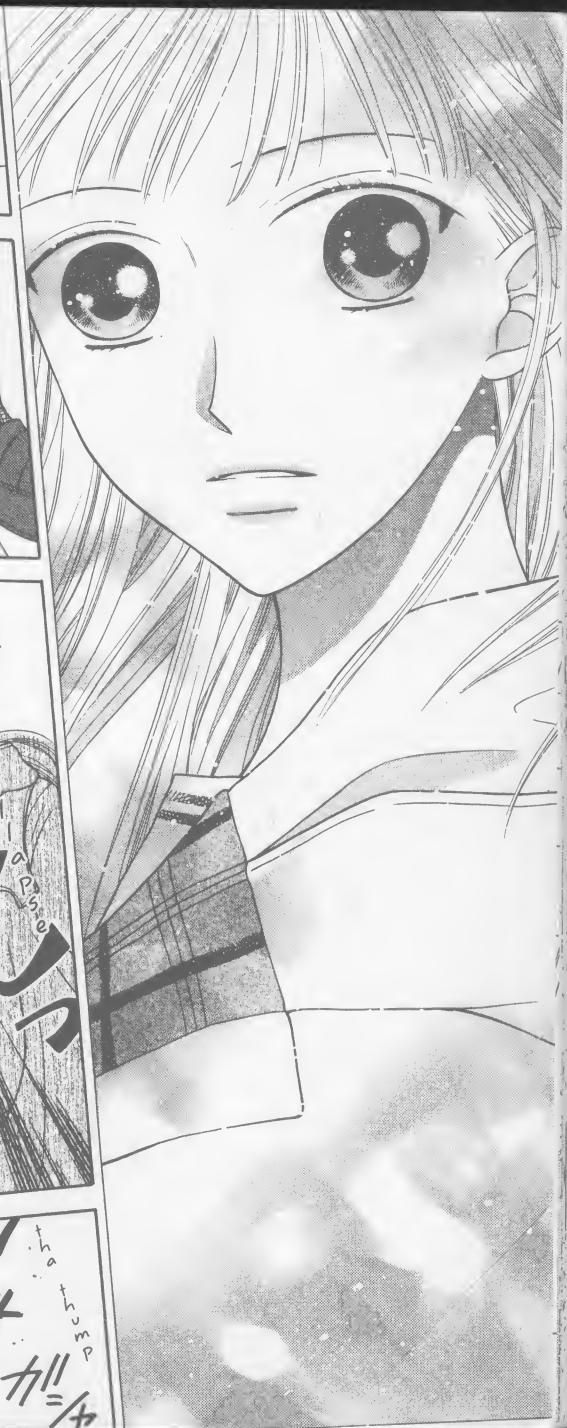
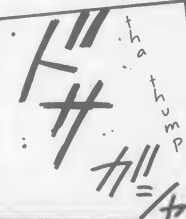
I
THOUGHT
MAYBE
I WAS
EARLY.

YOU
KNOW?



H-
HEY!

MACHI?!





ALL
YOUR
THINGS
SPILLED.

I'M...
FINE.



LET ME
HELP YOU
COLLECT
THEM.



ARE
YOU OKAY?
I'M SORRY
I MISSED
CATCHING
YOU.

ARE
YOU
HURT?



bah



WHY A
BOTTLE
OPENER?



MACHI...

...YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
PICK THOSE
UP FOR ME.

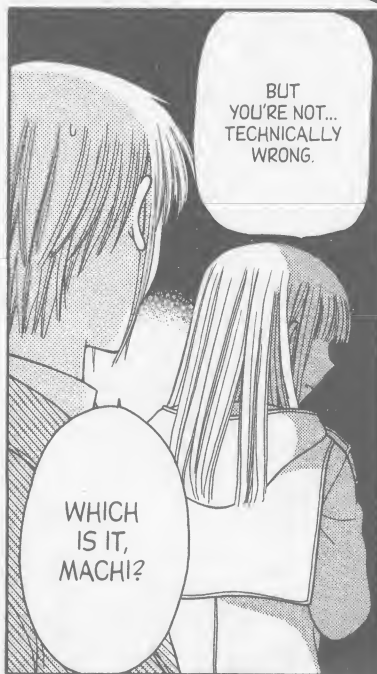
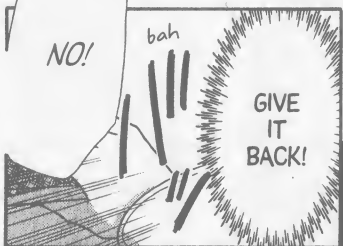
I'LL
DO IT
MYSELF.

A
BOTTLE
OPENER?

JUST
RANDOMLY.

...I WAS
HALF-
ASLEEP
AND PUT
IT IN MY
BAG.

THIS
MORNING...





THERE'S
NOTHING
BEYOND
THAT.

THANK
YOU.



I
MEAN...

THERE'S
NO HIDDEN
MEANING
BEHIND IT.

I JUST
WASN'T
SURE ABOUT
THROWING
IT AWAY, SO
I MADE A
BOOKMARK.

I MADE
IT
MYSELF.



I'M
GLAD.

WELL,
YOU'RE
TAKING
GOOD CARE
OF IT.

...FOR
WHAT?



I...

I'M NOT
TAKING
CARE
OF IT!

HUH?

DON'T
GIVE IT
BACK!

I DON'T LIKE
IT! IT'S BIG
AND HARD TO
USE--IN FACT,
YOU CAN HAVE
IT BACK!

BUT YOU'RE
USING IT
BECAUSE
YOU LIKE IT,
RIGHT?

SLAMMING IT
INTO BOOKS
DOESN'T
MEAN I'M
TAKING CARE
OF IT!

BUT...
YOU
MADE A
BOOKMARK.



Do
I
risk
it?

I KINDA
WANNA ASK,
BUT I ALSO
KINDA DON'T.





THE
ANSWER
TO MY
QUESTION.

THEN I
FINALLY
GOT IT.



Whoa.
I GUESS
MACHI
LIKES
MAPLE
LEAVES.

I
DON'T
KNOW!



ALL
RIGHT.
THEN
MAYBE...

...YOU
LIKE THE
COLOR
RED?

Or some-
thing?



See?

Her
ribbon's
red,
too.

OH,
YEAH.
RED!



She
has a
point.

DID YOU
STOP
BY THE
SCHOOL?

I DON'T
KNOW...!



That's
weird!
Ew.

You
don't?



OH, NO,
MACHI! WHY
ARE YOU
WEARING YOUR
UNIFORM?!

W h a a a a ?

'Dragged'
along.

...HE
REMEMBERED.

YO,
OVER
HERE!



I'VE
NEVER SEEN
MACHI LIKE
THAT.

I'VE GOTTA
SAY, I WAS
SURPRISED.

HM?

...A WEIRD
PERSON.

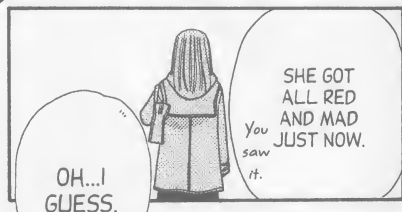


IT'S A
NATURAL
PRINCESS
OLD MAN!

I'm a what
now?

YOU DON'T
MAKE
SENSE ANY
MORE.

A WEIRD
PERSON.



SHE GOT
ALL RED
AND MAD
JUST NOW.

You
saw
it.

OH...I
GUESS.



I
THOUGHT
IT WAS
SORT OF
CUTE.

Despite her
inflexibility.

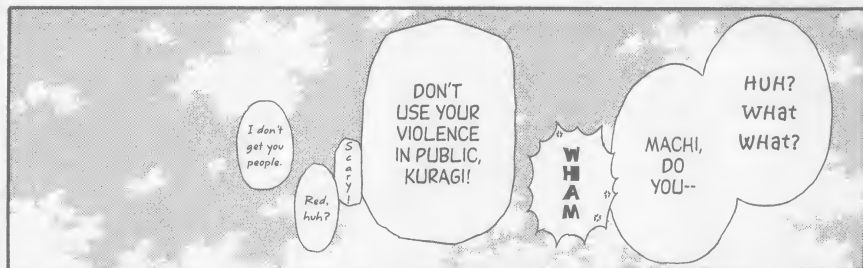


MACHI
LIKES
RED.

?

A
WEIRD...
PERSON.

WELL,
IT'S ALL
COMING
TOGETHER.



I don't
get you
people.

Red,
huh?

DON'T
USE YOUR
VIOLENCE
IN PUBLIC,
KURAGI!

WHAM

MACHI,
DO YOU--

HUH?
WHAT
WHAT?



Chapter 95



...BUT
PLEASE
REGARD
ME
KINDLY.

I'M VERY
INEXPERI-
ENCED...



UM...



ALL
RIGHT,
THEN.



LET ME
THANK
YOU
AGAIN.



NO,
NO.



YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU
CAME TO
SHISHOU
TO GET
MARRIED.

Oh!
N-NOT
AT ALL!
I'M NOT
WORTHY
OF SUCH
AN HONOR!

I SUSPECT THAT
I ALSO HAVE
IMPERFECTIONS...

...BUT
PLEASE
REGARD ME
KINDLY.



THAT IS
NOT YOUR
CALL.

BESIDES,
SHISHOU-SAN
HAS THE
WONDERFUL
HANA-CHA--

Close the
mouth.

I'll
take
you to
your
room.

I'LL BE
STAYING AT
SHISHOU-
SAN'S HOUSE
THIS YEAR.

NEW
YEAR'S IS
COMING
SOON.



y e e k !
N-NO!
IT'S NOT
LIKE
THAT!

IT'S JUST
THAT I'LL BE
STAYING WITH
HIM ON NEW
YEAR'S, SO I
WANTED TO
EXPRESS MY
THANKS!

I KNOW.
IT WAS A
JOKE.



you...

you
BEAST!

I'M
GONNA
KILL
YOU.



Hmm.

IF YOU'RE
GOING TO
BOTHER GOING
BACK, YOU
SHOULD TAKE
YOUR TIME--
STAY LONGER
THAN A NIGHT.

WELL...I'M
NOT SURE
ABOUT LEAVING
THE TWO OF
THEM ALONE.



Left alone.



I'M GONNA KILL
YOU BOTH.
TOGETHER.

BEAST.

HA?

NOT TO WORRY,
TOHRU-KUN! WE'LL
PUT TOGETHER A
PLAN TO PROTECT
YOU FROM THE
EVIL CLUTCHES OF
FIENDISH KYO-KUN.



SHISHOU-
SAN!

AND IT WAS
DECIDED THAT I
WOULD IMPOSE
ON THE KIND
SHISHOU-SAN.

Please,
send
them
here.

I
see.

BEFORE
I REALLY
UNDERSTOOD,
THE TALKS
PROGRESSED.

AND
SO...



AND
KYO...

YOU'VE
ALREADY
WELCOMED
MANY A
NEW YEAR
WITH ME.



I'll do
my
best
to
make
it!

YOU
MUST BE
ESPECIALLY
HAPPY
TO HAVE
TOHRU-SAN
WITH US.



I LOOK
FORWARD
TO IT.



WHAT
WOULD YOU
LIKE TO EAT
TONIGHT?

I'LL DO MY
BEST TO MAKE
YOU WHATEVER
YOU LIKE!



"CHILD"?

Oh.
THAT'S
RIGHT.

I SHOULD
TELL YOU
THAT THE
OTHER
CHILD IS
ALSO HERE.



NO.

He went back
to his family
again this year.

YOU MEAN
KUNIMITSU?



I WAS TEASING,
BUT I THINK
HE TOOK IT
PERSONALLY.

Something must
have happened.

.....
If I said
I wasn't
happy, I'd
be lying.
It's also
extremely
complicated,
and it'd
be like I'm
driving
myself into a
corner but...

WE'RE
COMING
IN...

カ
open

...ISUZU.

ISUZU-SAN!

whoosh



I'm
VERY
SORRY.

I...

Y-YOU JUST
SPRANG OUT
OF NOWHERE
AND CAME
RUNNING!

You
idiot!

Wham!

Wham!

IS THAT
RIGHT? YOU
USED TO HAVE
NO PROBLEM
GLARING AT
EACH OTHER
FOR FIVE, TEN
MINUTES.

And
Hatsuharu
would
gaze on.

WE
WERE
JUST
KIDS!

ARE YOU
TWO ON BAD
TERMS?

Huh?

Hmph!

TOHRU,
THINK
BEFORE
YOU
LEAP.

I DIDN'T
HEAR
ANYTHING
ABOUT YOU
COMING! NOW I'M
GONNA BE
SICK!

Isuzu-
san...

I
WOULDN'T
DO THAT.
JEEZ.

YOU'RE
NOT TO
GLARE
AT EACH
OTHER
TODAY.



GOSH.

WHEN I WENT
TO SEE ISUZU-
SAN AT THE
HOSPITAL THE
OTHER DAY,
SHE DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING.



OH!
I...

THEY'RE
NOT ON
BAD
TERMS.

THEY'RE
JUST NOT
ON GOOD
TERMS.

...SEE?

H U M ?



YES--
IT SEEMS
SHE'S OUT
TEMPORARILY.



PUSHING
HERSELF NOW
AND RUINING
HER HEALTH
WOULD MAKE
HER HOSPITAL
TIME A WASTE.

SHE
SEEMED TO BE
TRYING TO GO
SOMEWHERE,
SO I SPOKE
TO HER.

BUT SHE
DIDN'T WANT TO
PARTICIPATE
IN THE
BANQUET.



IT'S
PROBABLY
STARTED
WITHOUT
HER BY NOW.

THAT...THING.

PROBABLY
A WHILE
AGO.



YOU'RE
RIGHT.

...



TORI-
SAN!

HATORI-
NIISAN,
THAT WAS
WONDERFUL!



IT WAS A SPECTACULAR
DANCE! I CAN'T HELP
BUT SAY THAT MOMIJI'S
YOUTHFUL INNOCENCE
COUPLED WITH TORI-
SAN'S AURA OF REFINED
MASCULINITY CAUSED
A MIRACULOUS FLAVOR
TO HANG IN THE AIR. IF IT
WERE GIVEN TANGIBILITY...



NOW?

I WONDER WHAT
YUKI-KUN AND
THE OTHERS
ARE THINKING
ABOUT THERE...





PLEASE
STOP ADDING
TO MY
MISERY.

Yes!

I WOULD
WISH IT TO
EMBRACE
ME!



TOGETHER WE
WILL BE...
THE EMBRACED
TEAM!

AND YOU
WILL BE
WITH THE
MIRACULOUS
ME!

In your
dreams,
Amiya

STOP
TALKING
NONSENSE
AND GO
AWAY!

Yuki's here.
you realize.

YOU
CHANGED
YOUR
CLOTHES
TOO FAST,
HAA-SAN.

Aw

?



GOOD
WORK,
HAA-SAN!

slink

BE
QUIET!

THE
DEPRESSING
"DANCE" IS
OVER AT
LAST,
HM?

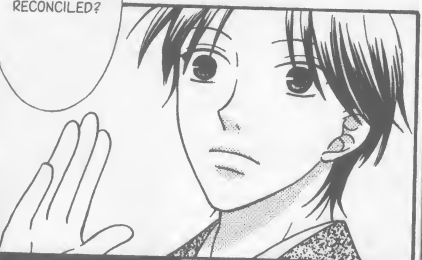
TOO BAD
YOU'RE IN
IT NEXT
YEAR!



WAIT.

...

HAVE
YOU TWO
RECONCILED?



whisper

I WANTED TO
TAKE A PICTURE
OF YOU IN
YOUR LOVELY
COSTUME FOR
MAYU-CHAN.

THAT'S
ASININE.
DON'T TOY
WITH HER
OVER THINGS
LIKE...

.....



**SLIP OF
THE
TONGUE!**

Are
you
guys
that
far
yet?

Well?

NOTHING
TO
WORRY
ABOUT
AT ALL!

NO
WORRIES!

HA!
AH
HA
HA!



AKITO'S GOT
KURENO-KUN
AND YUKI-KUN
RIGHT NOW.

IS THAT
SARCASM I
DETECT?

YOU'RE
HOPELESS.

WE HAVE
TO GO BACK
BEFORE
AKITO GETS
LONELY.

I'M SURE
AKITO'S
THRILLED.

A Character Contest

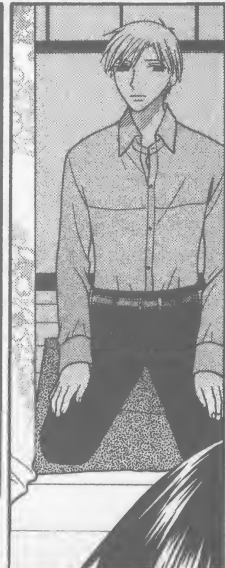
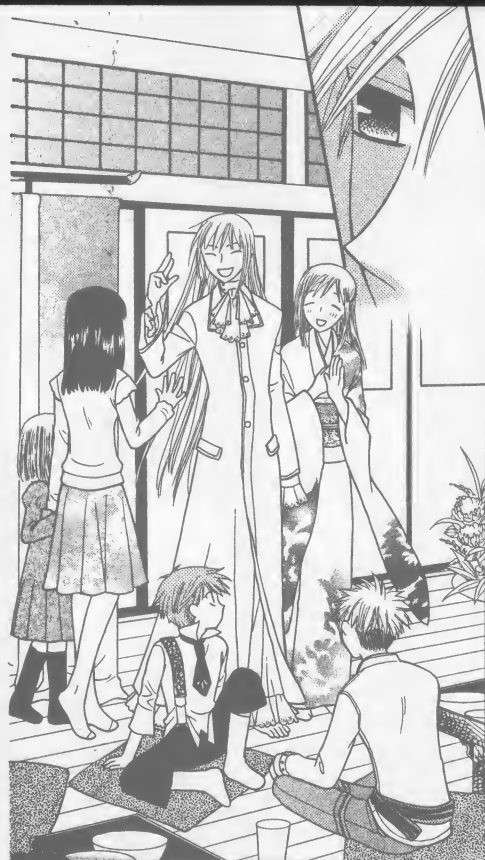
...was done by the magazine, so here are the results!

- 1st place: Kyo
- 2nd place: Tohru
- 3rd place: Yuki
- 4th place: Hatori
- 5th place: Haru
- 6th place: Momitchi
- 7th place: Kakeru
- 8th place: Aaya
- 9th place: Kurenno-san
- 10th place: Gure-san
- 11th place: Rin
- 12th place: Hana-chan
- 13th place: Ritchan
- 14th place: Kisa
- 15th place: Machi
- 16th place: Hiro
- 17th place: Shishou
- 18th place: Akkii
- 19th place: Uo-chan
- 20th place: Kagura

...There you go.

I couldn't write them all down, so I had through 20. There are too many characters in Fruits Basket. Anyway, thanks for all the responses!







YOU
CAME
BACK
TO ME.

I'M
GLAD.

HNN.

YOU
DIDN'T
RUN
AWAY
THIS
TIME.



I...



...FORGIVE
YOU, TOO,
AKITO.

COME
SEE ME
MORE
OFTEN
FROM
NOW ON.

...SO I
FORGIVE
YOU.



NOT
ANYMORE.

I
DON'T...

I DON'T
LIKE
MAKING IT
ANYONE'S
FAULT.



ACTUALLY,
NO.



I
JUST...

*OR MOTHER'S
FAULT, OR
KYO'S FAULT,
WHEN THINGS
DON'T GO THE
WAY I WANT.*

*I'M TIRED
OF MAKING
IT AKITO'S
FAULT.*



IF I DON'T,
I'LL ALWAYS
BE THE
FOOL.

I HAVE
TO KEEP
AWARE
OF THAT.

I HAVE A
LOT OF BAD
QUALITIES,
AND MUCH
OF ME
NEEDS
CHANGING.



IT'S NOT A
QUESTION OF
FORGIVENESS.



...I WON'T
BE ABLE
TO
CHANGE.

IF I BLAME
SOMEONE ELSE,
NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
TIME PASSES...

THAT'S
WHY.



WHAT?



...HAVE
THOSE...

...EYES?



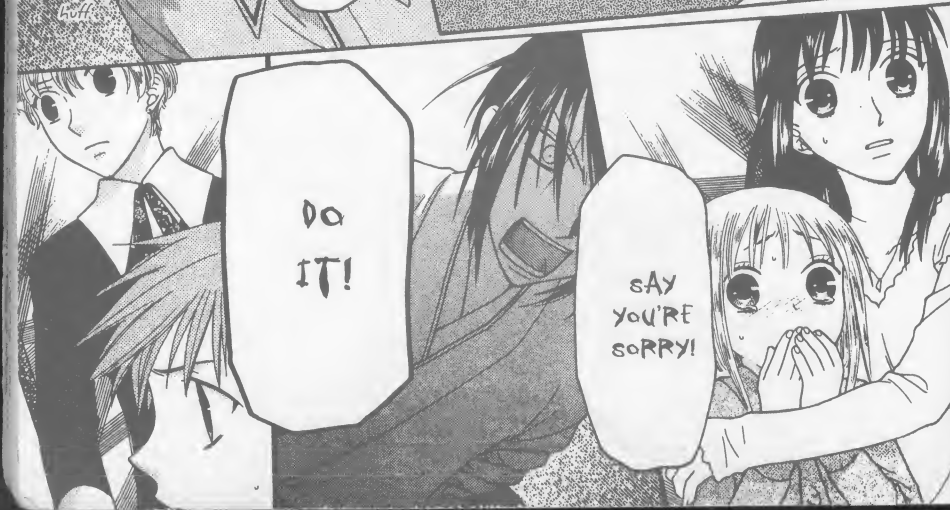
WHY
DO
YOU...

"NO."

"DON'T
GO!"

crash







AKITO...



YOU'RE CLEARLY
IN PAIN! BUT
WORRY NOT,
BROTHER--WITH
ME AT YOUR SIDE,
WE WILL HAVE
ONE MILLION
HORSEPOWER!

JUST
BRING
HIM OVER
HERE.

AS ORDERED,
TORI-SAN!



I'M FINE.
IT'S JUST A
LITTLE CUT.

...I'M
SORRY.

YUKI!

WHAT'S THE
MEANING OF
THIS?! YOU'RE
BLEEDING
LIKE MAD!

I'LL NEVER
RETURN...

...TO
WHERE
YOU ARE.

REALLY.

YOUR BROTHER
GOES MANIC
OVER HIS OWN
EXAGGERATION.

YEAH.

WE NEVER
SAW THAT!
WE NEVER
PLEGDED!

Stop
making
up past
events
and
put me
down!

I'M
SORRY.

YOU
MUSTN'T
DIE, YUKI!

THE SETTING SUN
WE WATCHED THE
DAY WE PLEDGED
BY THE SEINE TO
DIE TOGETHER
SPARKLES LIKE
GOLD IN MY HEART,
EVEN NOW!

Be
strong,
Yuki!

.....

がはは

Gaaah!



DON'T
THANK
ME.

I'M SORRY
I DIDN'T
INTERCEDE.

DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT.
IT PROBABLY
WOULD'VE JUST
MADE AKITO
ANGRIER.



THE
WOUND
ITSELF
ISN'T
DEEP.

BUT I'D
STILL
RECOMMEND
YOU GO
TO THE
HOSPITAL.

I'M
WORRIED
ABOUT
HOW HARD
YOU WERE
HIT.

MM...
THANK
YOU.



I ALSO
WANTED TO
APOLOGIZE...

...TO YOU,
HATORI.

FOR WHAT
HAPPENED
WHEN I WAS
LITTLE.



WHAT DID
YOU SAY
TO AKITO?

HM?
NOTHING,
REALLY...
I JUST
TALKED
ABOUT
BLAME.

THAT'S
RIGHT.



ALL
THIS
TIME.

"I
THINK
I SEE
NOW."

...I MAY
HAVE
BEEN
BLAMING
YOU.

SOME-
WHERE IN
MY HEART...

"...YOU FEEL
INDEBTED
TO YUKI!"

"D-DON'T
ERASE
THEM!"

I WAS
JUST A
CHILD.

AND
YOU WERE
HURTING,
TOO,
HATORI.

I'M
SORRY.





HAA-
KUN.

GOING
OUT,
ARE
WE?

YEAH...
YUKI'S OKAY,
AND DEMON
AKITO'S AWAY.

YOU SAY
THAT SO
CASUALLY.

ARE YOU
OFF TO SEE
RIN-CHAN AT
KAZUMA-
DONO'S
HOUSE?

YEAH.



...DON'T
BE LIKE
YOUR
BROTHER.

I
WON'T.
And
can't.

HAVE I BEEN
SUMMONED? IS
THE TREATMENT
COMPLETE?!



YOUR
MOODS
ARE
FICKLE,
SENSEI.

YESSIR! ♡
CLEARLY
ERRATIC--
THAT'S ME!
♡

A
LOT.



I DON'T
ALWAYS
HAVE TO
GO SMOOTH
THINGS OVER,
DO I?

*He's
been
closed
up
since
earlier.*

WHAT
ABOUT
SENSEI?
NOT
GOING TO
AKITO?

I DON'T
FEEL
LIKE IT.



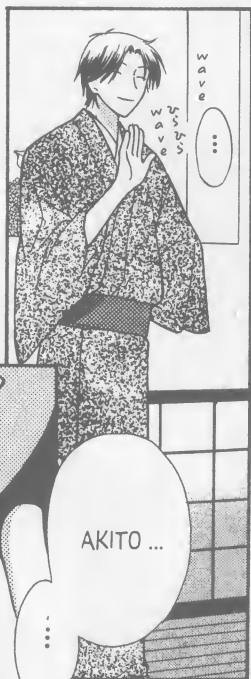
Anyway,

SAY HI
TO RIN
FOR ME.

OKAY.



IT WOULD
BE NICE IF
YOU COULD
REALIZE IT,
TOO.



...
...
...

AKITO ...
...

WHEN WE
WERE KIDS,
SHE CAME
OVER HERE
SOMETIMES.

SHISHOU'S
ALWAYS READY
TO HELP
PEOPLE, SO HE
LOOKED AFTER
HER WHEN
SHE SHOWED.

Y'KNOW
ISUZU?

AH!

THE NEW
YEAR'S
DAWN IS
ALMOST
HERE,
KYO-KUN!

WHAT WILL
YOU WISH FOR
ON YOUR FIRST
TEMPLE VISIT
OF THE YEAR?

SHE
FELL
ASLEEP.

*Incidentally,
Shishou is in
the bath.*

DOESN'T
SHE CARE
ABOUT NEW
YEAR'S?

THAT'S
KINDA
CUTE!

AW.
KYO-
KUN!

I WAS
PISSED
'CUZ I
KINDA FELT
LIKE SHE'D
TAKEN
SHISHOU
AWAY
FROM ME.


...WHERE'D
ISUZU GO,
ANYWAY?

OKAY!

I'M TALKING
ABOUT
WHEN I WAS
A KID, ALL
RIGHT?!

*It's different
now!*

Hang
on!



Let's
just say
they're
both
secrets,
then.

Yeeek!

THAT'S
TRUE!
PARDON MY
RUDENESS!

IF YOU'RE
GONNA ASK,
YOU HAVE
TO TELL
ME YOURS.

LAST
YEAR...

I WISH FOR
HAPPINESS.

...I WISHED THAT
YUKI-KUN AND
KYO-KUN WOULD
BE ABLE TO
GET ALONG.

BUT
THIS
YEAR...

FOR
EVERYONE.

...I HOPE I
CAN BREAK
THE CURSE.



KURENO.

gasp


FROM
TOHRU.

THAT'S A
PRESENT
FOR YOU.

EVEN IF
IT JUST
STARTS...

...WITH
ONE
SMALL
THING.

...FOR
CHANGE.

Watch it by
yourself, kay? 

I
WISH...

To Be Continued in Volume-17...

*I feel so
grateful!*



*Harada-sama, Araki-sama,
Mother-sama, Editor-sama*

*And everyone who reads and
supports this manga.*

Please feel the waves...

This has been...

高屋 奈月 でした。

Natsuki Takaya.





Next time in...



All You Wanted to Know About Akito, But Were Afraid to Ask...

Thanks to Momiji, Kureno has a DVD of the class play, in which Arisa breaks character for a second and begs Kureno to see her. And although Kureno loves Arisa, he explains to Tohru that he must remain by Akito's side. During this conversation, Kureno reveals many secrets to a stunned Tohru. And the biggest bombshell of all will forever change the way Tohru views Akito!

Fruits Basket Volume 17
Available August 2007

Fans Basket

Happy New Year, Furuba fans! 2007 is going to be an incredible year for Fruits Basket—you're in for some wonderful surprises in the upcoming volumes! Speaking of surprises, you all continue to amaze me with your intense loyalty and your smile-inducing fan art. It just keeps coming in, and it never stops! And thanks to you all, there are now over 2 million English-edition copies of Fruits Basket in print! Takaya-san is impressed by your dedication, as am I. See you next time.

- Paul Morrissey, Editor

Alyssa Burlage
Age 13
Prairie Du Sac, WI



Wow! Another fan from Wisconsin! Alyssa, Kisa is one of my favorite characters, too!

Like you, I grew up in a small town in Wisconsin, and I had a lot of cats when I was a kid. Maybe that's why I like Kisa so much. I thought your sketch was adorable, and you drew it with your own style!

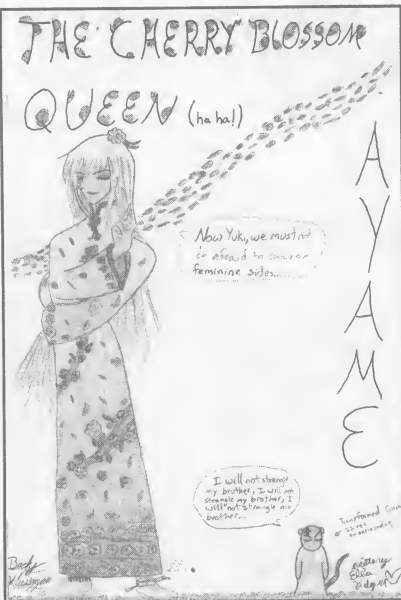
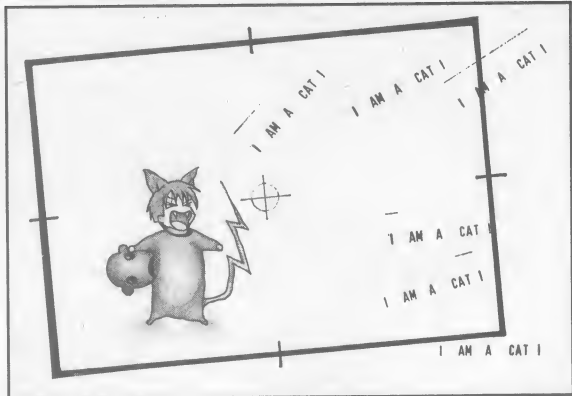


Hello, Michelle! Wisconsin is my home state! I love the fact that Wisconsinites are reading Fruits Basket. If only one of the zodiac animals was a badger... Anywho, I loved your drawing of Hana-Chan. You have a very unique technique.

Michelle S. Huttunen
Age 13
Rhineland, WI

Seng Ho
Age 22
London, UK

Putting Kyo in a rat
suit was a stroke of
brilliance! Very funny
sketch, Seng Ho!



Rebecca Marie Klossman Brittany Ella Hilgert
Age 14 Age 15
Manchester, MO High Ridge, MO

There's nothing like Fruits Basket to
bring friends even closer together!
Brittany designed the costume for
this drawing, and Becky drew Ayame.
Awesome teamwork! Your picture
of Ayame made me laugh out loud!

Margaret Lamas
Age 17
Orlando, FL

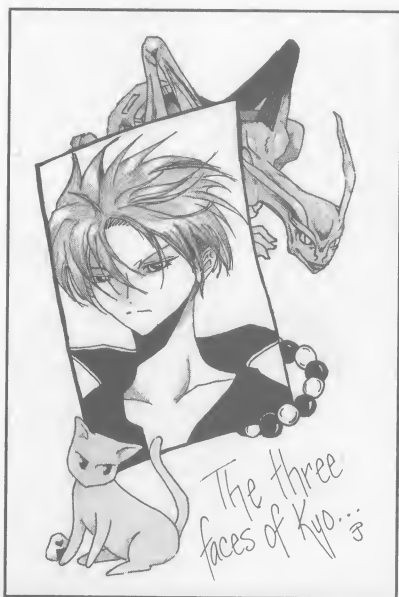
Margaret, your drawing is too precious
for words! Kisa with her little litter of
"kittens" gives me the warm fuzzies!





Melody Brown
Age 17
Medina, OH

I really liked your ink drawing, Melody! Nicely done! By the way, everyone, Melody mentions that she really likes pandas. And that got me thinking: I wonder what our furuba characters would look like if the Chinese zodiac featured different animals... Okay, everyone, send in your art to show me!



Jenn Prickett
Age 32
Glendo, WY

It's really cool to see all three versions of Kyo in one piece of art! Jenn, you might also be the oldest person to have their sketch shown in Fruits Basket! It just goes to show that Furuba has fans of all ages!



Jen Chen
Age 12
Belmont, MA

Kyo and Yuki don't look very happy here--even though they're getting lots of candy! I love Tohru's costume, but she's way too sweet to ever be a witch in real life! This sketch gives me a great idea! If any of you have dressed up as Fruits Basket characters for Halloween, send in a copy of your picture and I might run it in a future installment of Fans Basket!



Guadalupe Gonzales
Age 15
Dallas, TX

Isn't this amazing? Rin and Haru look sooooo cool as old-fashioned stuffed animals! Guadalupe, it's a shame I can't print all the art you submitted. I was blown away by your sketches!